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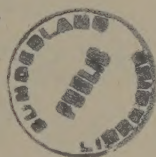
The Victoria History of the
Counties of England

EDITED BY L. F. SALZMAN, M.A., F.S.A.

A HISTORY OF
SUSSEX
VOLUME VII

THE
VICTORIA HISTORY
OF THE COUNTIES
OF ENGLAND

SUSSEX



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INSCRIBED
TO THE MEMORY OF
HER LATE MAJESTY
QUEEN VICTORIA
WHO GRACIOUSLY GAVE
THE TITLE TO AND
ACCEPTED THE
DEDICATION OF
THIS HISTORY



POYNINGS: THE MANOR-HOUSE AND CHURCH, c. 1785
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)

THE
VICTORIA HISTORY
OF THE COUNTY OF
SUSSEX

EDITED BY
L. F. SALZMAN, M.A., F.S.A.

VOLUME SEVEN
THE RAPE OF LEWES

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EDITORIAL NOTE

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THE RAPE OF LEWES: FROM BUDGEN'S MAP OF SUSSEX, 1724

THE RAPE AND HONOR OF LEWES

The present *RAPE* of Lewes, in the eastern division of the county, is bounded on the north by part of Surrey, on the south by the English Channel, on the east by the rape of Pevensey, and on the west by the rape of Bramber. It does not, however, correspond in area with the Sussex territory originally given by William the Conqueror to William de Warenne. Between the Conquest and the time at which the Domesday Survey was made a large strip of land extending to the River Adur on the west, and running from north to south, seems to have been cut off from Warenne's territory and given to William de Braose as part of his rape of Bramber. Another piece of land in the north-east of the original rape of Lewes, the hundred of East Grinstead, was given to the Count of Mortain. For these sacrifices William de Warenne was compensated by a grant of manors in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, which are described in Domesday Book as 'of the exchange of Lewes' or 'of the castellany of Lewes' and in the time of Henry II as the Earl of Warenne's 'new land'.¹

The rape included throughout the borough of Lewes, but the hundreds that compose the rest of the territory have varied from time to time in number, name, and composition. In 1086, for example, the boundary of the rape included the hundreds of Swanborough, Holmestrow, 'Prestetune', 'Falemere', 'Welesmere', Poynings, Buttinghill, Streat, and Barcombe, and a section of those of 'Eldretune' (later Fishersgate) and Windham.² By 1316 there were eight and a half hundreds, Preston³ forming part of the hundred of Whalesbone, and the land in Windham part of Buttinghill.⁴ The half-hundred of Windham reappeared in the early 15th century,⁵ but seems to have been treated as part of Buttinghill in the 17th century,⁶ though it is mentioned separately in the Hearth Tax returns of 1665 as containing Bolney and Twineham.⁷ In 1624 the earlier Welesmere and Falemere had been reshuffled into Whalesbone and Younsmere, the hundred of Preston and Hove had been created, or re-created, and a new hundred of Southover⁸ had grown up.⁹ By 1724¹⁰ there was in existence the hundred of Dean, containing Patcham, a manor which in 1086 was in 'Prestetune' Hundred but which since 1296 at least had been reckoned in Whalesbone Hundred. The rape, at the present day, contains 11½ hundreds, namely, Barcombe, Buttinghill, Dean, part of Fishersgate, Holmestrow,

Poynings, Preston, Southover, Streat, Swanborough, Whalesbone, and Younsmere, though their existence is now theoretical, as for all practical purposes they have long ceased to function.

During the eleventh and twelfth centuries, at least, the Earls Warenne, like the lords of the other rapes in Sussex and certain magnates elsewhere, had private sheriffs who were distinct from the sheriffs of the county and who did not account at the king's Exchequer.¹¹ All the information so far discovered about these Lewes sheriffs comes from the Chartulary of the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes.¹² Sheriffs are there found witnessing grants of lands and privileges to the priory by members of the Warenne family¹³ and by other persons.¹⁴ One, Peter the sheriff, himself gave to the priory a mill and four acres of land at Meeching,¹⁵ and also one acre of land for building a church at Kingston.¹⁶ Earl Warenne, in confirming this latter grant, ordered Hugh the sheriff of Lewes to give seisin to the monks.¹⁷ In another letter to 'Hugh the sheriff and his other bailiffs (*villicis*)' Earl William III ordered that any man failing to get justice from the prior of St. Pancras in any claim against him, should 'make complaint to me if I am in the neighbourhood or to my sheriff'.¹⁸ Shortly afterwards the Earl's brother Rainald de Warenne in 1147-8 addressed a letter concerning the merchant guild at Lewes to 'the sheriff of Lewes and all the barons of the earldom'.¹⁹

The earliest of these sheriffs of whom records have been found is Peter the sheriff (c. 1090-8).²⁰ Hugh occurs in about 1100,²¹ William and Peter in about 1120,²² and subsequently Hugh (c. 1145),²³ Guy (1147),²⁴ Adam (1147-8 and c. 1160),²⁵ Adelulf (c. 1150),²⁶ William (1150),²⁷ Pettewin (c. 1160),²⁸ Payn (1185 and c. 1200)²⁹ and Hugh de Plompton (c. 1230 or earlier).³⁰

The *HONOR* or *BARONY* of Lewes, which approximated in area to the rape, was given, as has already been said, by William the Conqueror to William de Warenne,³¹ a Norman lord who was present at the Battle of Hastings and who was left in England in 1067 to help to rule the country.³² By 1086 he held land in twelve counties of England. He supported William Rufus against the rebellious earls in 1088 and was invested by him with the earldom of Surrey,³³ in which county his descendants are found holding the castle and town of Reigate, the manors of Dorking and

¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxii, 25-6; *V.C.H. Norfolk*, ii, 18 note, 80-94 *passim*; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 297-8.

² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 435-43, and map, 386-7.

³ This was the 'quarter' of the hundred recorded in 1278 as in the hands of the Bishop of Chichester: Assize R. 921, m. 14.

⁴ Cf. *Feud. Aids*, v, 135-6.

⁵ *Bk. of John Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 186.

⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lviii, 11-19.

⁷ Lay Subs. 258, no. 18.

⁸ See below, p. 44.

⁹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 103-4.

¹⁰ Budgen's map of that year.

¹¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 352; W. A. Morris, *The Medieval English Sheriff*, 108; N. Denholm-Young, *Seignorial Administration in England*, 46-53. Cf. *List of Sheriffs* (P.R.O. Lists and Indexes ix), 141.

¹² Trans. and ed. by L. F. Salzman for Sussex Record Society (vols. xxxviii, xl).

¹³ *Lewes Chart.* i, 23, 40; ii, 25, 27, 58.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* i, 132, 161; ii, 26, 42, 44, 46, 52, 53, 114.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* i, 13, 36; ii, 50.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* ii, 34.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* i, 39.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* i, 13, 33, 34, 36, 40; ii, 50.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* i, 34.

²⁰ *Ibid.* i, 132; ii, 58.

²¹ *Ibid.* ii, 39.

²² *Ibid.* 25, 44.

²³ *Ibid.* ii, 26.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 42, 52, 53.

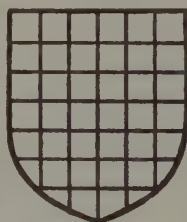
²⁵ Cf. *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 361, 377, &c.

²⁶ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; cf. *Lewes Chartulary*, i, 2-3.

²⁷ *Ibid.*; cf. Stenton, *English Feudalism*, 231 and note; *V.C.H. Surrey*, i, 340.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

Betchworth, and other minor possessions closely connected in their descent with the honor of Lewes.³⁴ It was this William de Warenne who with his wife Gundrada in 1077 founded the Priory of Lewes (q.v.), the first Cluniac house in England. He died on 24 June 1088 at Lewes, having been wounded at the siege of Pevensey.³⁵ His elder son and successor William, 2nd Earl of Surrey, was disinherited by Henry I for his share in the rebellion of Duke Robert of Normandy, but was subsequently restored to lands and favour. He died on 11 May 1138 and was buried with his father in the Priory of Lewes.³⁶ His eldest son, another William, succeeded him, and died on crusade on 13 January 1149. He had been an adherent of King Stephen, and his daughter and heiress Isabel married as her first husband William, King Stephen's second son. He died in 1159, and her second husband was Hamelin, natural son of Geoffrey, Count of Anjou, and half-brother of Henry II. Both these husbands in turn were known as Earl Warenne.³⁷ In 1166 Hamelin was holding 60 knights' fees in Sussex³⁸ and similarly in 1171-2.³⁹ He died on 7 May 1202 and was succeeded by his son William whose descendants were known by the name of Warenne. It is uncertain whether Isabel survived her husband.⁴⁰



WARENNE. *Checky or and azure.*

The new earl William had livery of his lands on 12 May 1202.⁴¹ In 1212 he was found to be holding 62 fees in the rape of Lewes⁴² and in 1235-6 was assessed at £42 10s. for fees of the honor in Sussex.⁴³ In the civil war at the end of John's reign he was at first a supporter of the king but deserted to the baronial side when Louis of France arrived in London.⁴⁴ After the accession of the young Henry III he returned to the royalist side before June 1217⁴⁵ and was a prominent figure in the politics of the reign. He died in 1240, whereupon his estates devolved upon John de Warenne, his son by his second wife Maud, coheiress of William Marshal II, Earl of Pembroke, and widow of Hugh Bigod, 3rd Earl of Norfolk.⁴⁶ John was only five years old at the time of his father's death and from Whitsun 1240 to September 1241 his lands were in the hands of William de Munceus, acting for the Crown. The estates held in demesne at this time were the manors of Meeching, Piddinghoe, Rodmell, Iford, Northease, Houndean, Allington, and Cuckfield; there were also revenues from 'Phideligworth' (presumably Piddingworth in Ditchling), Lamporte and Walland on the outskirts of Lewes, and Seaford.⁴⁷ From Lewes itself 14s. 4d. came 'from the farm of the cottars', £8 os. 10½d. 'from the customs (*consuet*) of the town', and £7 'from

perquisites of the court of Lewes; other issues include perquisites of the halmotes (*alimottorum*) or manorial courts, the farm of the hundreds, the issues of the Forest of Worth, and the park of Cuckfield.⁴⁸ In September 1241 the guardianship of the honor was given to Peter of Savoy, the king's uncle.⁴⁹ This grant was later made to extend for 10 years from 2 Feb. 1242.⁵⁰ Later in 1242 all freemen and tenants in socage and burgage in the late earl's Sussex lands were requested to make a competent aid to Peter of Savoy, who was about to cross the sea with the king.⁵¹ In 1242-3 there were 66½ knights' fees held of the honor in Sussex.⁵²

Although part of John's inheritance was restored to him in 1248,⁵³ the grant did not include the lands his father had held in Sussex and Surrey. Peter of Savoy still held the Surrey lands in April 1252,⁵⁴ but they were in John's possession as from Michaelmas 1252⁵⁵ and in May 1256 he was granted the third penny of the county of Surrey as Earl of Surrey⁵⁶ and must soon after have been given full possession of the honor of Lewes.⁵⁷ Already, in 1247, he had married the king's half-sister, Alice, daughter of Hugh X, Count of La Marche.⁵⁸

John de Warenne took an active part in the Barons' Wars and fled to France after the Battle of Lewes. His lands, with the exception of the castles of Lewes and Reigate, were then committed for a time to Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester.⁵⁹

The story told by Hemingburgh of the 'ancient and rusty' sword produced by Warenne as warranty for his lands⁶⁰ is now discredited,⁶¹ but the sober record of the *Quo Warranto* proceedings of 1279 shows that he was successful in maintaining his claim to the liberties of free warren, view of frankpledge, assize of bread and ale, gallows, pillory, tumbrell, thief-hanging, and wreck of the sea throughout the rape, together with his prison at Lewes.⁶² As to the composition of the honor at this period, an inquiry made in 1284-5 showed that the manors held in demesne and in chief were: Meeching (later Newhaven), Rodmell, Piddinghoe, Rottingdean, Ovingdean, Brighthelmston, Patcham, Blatchington, Clayton, Cuckfield, Worth, Ditchling, Ardingly, Balcombe, and part of Bolney.⁶³ Knights' fees held of the barony were to be found in Portslade, Aldrington, Hangleton, Poynings, Piccombe, Perching, Newtimber, Hurst (later Hurstpierpont), Slaugham, Plumpton, West Hoathly, Chailey, Streat, Westmeston, and Hamsey.⁶⁴ At the time of his death in September 1304, Earl John de Warenne was holding in demesne the manors of Houndean, Northease, Meeching, and Patcham, Rodmell, Brighton, Middleton, Allington, and Cuckfield; also lands and tenements in Rottingdean, 'la Wyk', and Keymer, Clayton, and Ditchling.⁶⁵ There were also revenues from 'the castle and borough of Lewes, with nine hundreds', the borough and market of Seaford, and the forest of Worth. In view of the

³⁴ *Cal. Pat.* 1313-17, p. 483; *Cal. Ing.* p.m. ix, 54; *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 187, 189, 190; cf. *V.C.H. Surrey*, iii, 234.

³⁵ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

³⁶ *Lewes Chart.* ii, 15.

³⁷ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

³⁸ *Red. Bk. of Exch.* i, 204.

³⁹ *Ibid.* 58.

⁴⁰ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 304; Add. Ch. 24634. See genealogical table in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxi, 80-1.

⁴¹ *Rot. Lit. Pat.* (Rec. Com.), 10.

⁴² *Bk. of Fees*, i, 71.

⁴³ *Ibid.* This was apparently one instalment of the aid of 2 marks on each fee.

⁴⁴ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁴⁵ Norgate, *Minority of Henry III*, 49.

⁴⁶ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁴⁷ Part of Seaford was originally in the Rape of Lewes, but subsequently the whole was included in the Rape of Pevensey.

⁴⁸ *Pipe R.* 25 Hen. III, m. 5.

⁴⁹ *Cal. Pat.* 1232-47, p. 259.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* 272.

⁵¹ *Ibid.* 279.

⁵² *Bk. of Fees*, ii, 690-1. The total number of fees, including some in Norfolk, held of the Castle of Lewes was returned in 1440 as 72½: Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), 1120, no. 1.

⁵³ *Cal. Pat.* 1247-58, p. 14.

⁵⁴ *Close R.* 1251-3, p. 79.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* 400.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* 1254-6, p. 299; cf. *V.C.H. Surrey*, i, 340.

⁵⁷ *Plac. de Quo War.* (Rec. Com.), 750. The earl here states that he was in the king's wardship for 17 years and more.

⁵⁸ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vii, 327.

⁵⁹ *Cal. Pat.* 1258-66, p. 326.

⁶⁰ Hemingburgh (Eng. Hist. Soc.), ii, 6.

⁶¹ Cam, *Hundred and Hundred Rolls*, 234-5.

⁶² *Plac. de Quo War.* (Rec. Com.), 750-1.

⁶³ *Feud. Aids*, v, 129-30.

⁶⁵ *Esch. Accts.* 33 Edw. I.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

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importance attached by the earl to his hunting rights,⁶⁶ it may be noted that wages were paid to a head wrenner of Lewes and four subordinates, a head forester in 'le Cleres' with eleven sub-foresters, a head forester and eight subordinates in the forest of Worth, and parkers at Ditchling and Cuckfield. Another interesting point is that the escheator did not account for any meadow or pasture, as all of this was in the hands of Edward, Prince of Wales. The prince at this time had his stud at Ditchling;⁶⁷ on the death of the earl he had at once approached his executors with a demand to buy the earl's horses; and on 15 March 1305⁶⁸ he had obtained from the king, his father, a grant of the meadow and pasture in the earl's lands for his stud, during the minority of the heir.

Earl John was succeeded by his grandson John, aged 19, whose father William had been killed in 1286 at a tournament at Croydon.⁶⁹ The younger John was granted seisin of his inheritance in April 1306,⁷⁰ and by June of the same year he was referred to as 'the present Earl of Surrey'.⁷¹

In the lifetime of this second John de Warenne the barony was the subject of several legal processes. By February 1316 the earl had started proceedings in a divorce suit against his wife, Joan, a grand-daughter of Edward I.⁷² To make provision for his illegitimate children by Maud de Nerford, he surrendered his Sussex manors, with his Surrey estates, to the king in July of that year⁷³ and received them again, in August, to hold for life, with remainder successively to his sons John and Thomas de Warenne.⁷⁴ In May 1326, however, this arrangement was set aside by a settlement upon the earl and Joan, still his lawful wife, and their heirs male, with remainder to John's only sister Alesia and her husband Edmund Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel, and their son Richard, and Isabel his wife.⁷⁵ Earl Warenne subsequently made a surrender to, and accepted a re-grant from Edward III, but in December 1346 the settlement of 1326 was confirmed.⁷⁶ In 1347 the earl died⁷⁷ and his widow continued to hold the estates until her death in 1361, after which they passed to the earl's nephew Richard, Earl of Arundel, who then assumed the title of Earl of Surrey.⁷⁸

At the time of John de Warenne's death the manors of the honor held by the gift of Edward II, following the arrangement of 1326, were: Cuckfield, Clayton, Ditchling, Meeching, Patcham, Brighthelmston, Rottingdean, Houndean, Northease, Rodmell, Key-

mer, Middleton, Allington, Worth, and Piecombe, with the vill of Iford, Piddinghoe (member of the manor of Meeching), and Seaford, and the castle and town of Lewes.⁷⁹ No knights' fees are listed in the inquisition *post mortem*. These same Sussex lands were settled by Richard, Earl of Arundel and Surrey, in 1366 upon himself and his then wife Eleanor, daughter of John, Duke of Lancaster, and upon their son Richard and his wife Elizabeth and their heirs.⁸⁰ The elder Richard died in 1376, and in 1397, after the younger Richard had been attainted and executed for treason,⁸¹ the honor of Lewes and the rest of his lands were granted by Richard II to Thomas, Earl Marshal and Earl of Nottingham.⁸² In the following year Thomas, who had meanwhile been made Duke of Norfolk, was banished, and in September 1398 the honor was granted in tail-male to the king's half-brother, John, Duke of Exeter.⁸³

In January 1400 the Duke of Exeter was beheaded at Pleshey for his part in the conspiracy against Henry IV, and in October of that year his father's attainder having been reversed, Thomas Fitzalan was restored in blood and honors as Earl of Arundel and Surrey.⁸⁴ A few months before his death in October 1415, he settled the honor of Lewes, with his Surrey lands, on himself and his wife Beatrice and their heirs.⁸⁵ Beatrice held the honor until her death in 1439,⁸⁶ when in the absence of direct heirs it devolved upon the representatives of the late earl's sisters, viz. John Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, grandson of Elizabeth Fitzalan and her second husband; Elizabeth Nevill, Baroness Bergavenny, grand-daughter of the second sister Joan who married William Beauchamp, 4th son of Thomas, Earl of Warwick; Edmund Lenthall, son of the third sister, Margaret, and her husband Sir Rowland Lenthall, Master of the Wardrobe to Henry IV.⁸⁷ Edmund Lenthall was a minor and in the king's wardship, but in December 1440 the other two coheirs were allowed to enter their respective *pourparties*.⁸⁸

The barony of Lewes, with all its rents and profits, and the castle of Lewes were now divided into three equal shares.⁸⁹ Each coheir therefore received, in addition to $\frac{1}{3}$ of the castle, third parts respectively of the 'Chase called Cleres'; of the forest of Worth and of any residue of the manor of Worth beyond the forest; of assised rent of the vill of Lewes, that is to say a third of each tenant's rent together with any residue from the vill. Similar division was made of the proceeds of view of frankpledge, of the court of the vill, and of the court baron, of a yearly fair at Whitsuntide and a weekly market on Saturday, and of a fishery called the fishery of Lewes. The profits of the eight and two half hundreds of the rape were also divided, as were a certain common



FITZALAN, Earl of Arundel. Gules a lion or.

⁶⁶ Rot. Hund. (Rec. Com.), ii, 207, 209, 210; Plac. de Quo War. (Rec. Com.), 750, where King John is said to have given the earl rights of warren for the sake of the pun on his name (*propter cognomen suum a warrenna*), which may well be a fact.

⁶⁷ Suss. Arch. Coll. ii, 82, 92; Hilda Johnstone, *Letters of Edward Prince of Wales* (Roxburghe Club), i, 2, 31, 40.

⁶⁸ Cal. Close, 1302-7, p. 245.

⁶⁹ Dict. Nat. Biog.

⁷⁰ Cal. Close, 1302-7, p. 373.

⁷¹ Cal. Pat. 1301-7, p. 476.

⁷² Ibid. 1313-17, pp. 401, 434. She was the child of Edw. I's daughter Eleanor and Henry III, Count of Bar.

⁷³ Ibid. 483.

⁷⁴ Ibid. 528; Cat. Anct. D. iii, A. 5917. Maud had already started proceedings in a

cause of pre-contract of matrimony: Cal. Pat. 1313-17, p. 401.

⁷⁵ Ibid. 1324-7, p. 271.

⁷⁶ Ibid. 1345-8, p. 221; 1348-50, p. 327.

⁷⁷ His will is printed in *Testamenta Eboracensia* (Surtees Soc. iv), i, 41.

⁷⁸ Cal. Inq. p.m. ix, 54; Cal. Close, 1346-9, pp. 314, 316; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 243. Cf. *V.C.H. Surrey*, iii, 234.

⁷⁹ Cal. Inq. p.m. ix, 54.

⁸⁰ Cal. Pat. 1364-7, pp. 198, 237; *Suss. Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), nos. 2331, 2332; cf. *ibid.* no. 2434. Elizabeth was the daughter of William, Earl of Northampton; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.) i, 245.

⁸¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 21 Ric. II, no. 137, m. 11.

⁸² Cal. Pat. 1396-9, pp. 209-10, 220, 249. Included in the grant were 8 and two $\frac{1}{2}$ hundreds: viz. Barcombe, Buttinghill, Holmestrow, Poynings, Streat, Swanborough, Whalesbone, Younsmere, $\frac{1}{2}$ Fishersgate, and $\frac{1}{2}$ Windham.

⁸³ Cal. Pat. 1396-9, p. 458.

⁸⁴ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 245-6; *Feud. Aids*, vi, 520.

⁸⁵ Cal. Pat. 1413-16, p. 336; G.E.C. loc. cit.; Chan. Inq. p.m. 4 Hen. V, no.

⁸⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. 18 Hen. VI, no. 28.

⁸⁷ See 'The Devolution of Sussex Manors', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 54-91; G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁸⁸ Cal. Pat. 1436-41, p. 483.

⁸⁹ See *The Bk. of J. Rowe*, 185-91.

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fine paid at the feasts of the Annunciation and Michaelmas, the toun of the sheriff of Sussex held at 'Nomansland', and a rent of £11 6s. called 'Sherevesyeld' taken within the rape of Arundel. The order of presentation to the Priory of Lewes was to be first by Edmund Lenthall, second by the Duke of Norfolk, and third by Elizabeth Lady Bergavenny.⁹⁰ The only manor in which actual partition was to be made was Northease with the vill of Iford, from which rents were to be paid to Edmund Lenthall and the Duke of Norfolk by Lady Bergavenny, who was to hold the manorial rights.⁹¹ Apart from these, the manors were allotted in groups of approximately equal value.

The manors of Houndean, Keymer, and Cuckfield with its appurtenant 'Haldelegh' were given to Edmund Lenthall, with rents as above from Northease and Iford. His knights' fees lay in Portslade, Aldrington, Ovingdean, Hamsey, Barcombe, Streat, Newtimber, Baldshill, Rottingdean, Ockley, Hangleton, Plumpton, and Perching, and Fincham and Rougham in Norfolk, with a third share of fees in Blatchington, Deopham in Norfolk, and Ovingdean, and of Surrey fees.⁹²

The demesne manors of the Duke of Norfolk were Meeching with the vill of Piddinghoe, Clayton, Piecombe, Brighthelmston, Allington, and Middleton with the vill of Seaford, and rents from Northease and Iford. His knights' fees were in Hurst, Westmeston, Hamsey, Barcombe, Streat, Newtimber, Bevendean, Rottingdean, Hangleton, 'Sonde', Standean, Smithwick, Kingston, Radynden in Sussex, Wretham in Suffolk, and Rougham in Norfolk, with a third share of fees in Blatchington, and Deopham, and Ovingdean, and fees in Surrey.⁹³

To the share of Elizabeth, Lady Bergavenny, fell the manors of Ditchling, Rodmell, Patcham, Rottingdean, Northease, and the vill of Iford.⁹⁴ Her knights' fees lay in Poynings, Piecombe, Wapsbourne, Chailey, Iford, Worth, Ditchling, 'Banham', 'Firles', Maplesden, Piddingworth, Folkington near Wilmington, and Fulking,⁹⁵ with a share of fees in Blatchington, and Ovingdean, and Deopham, and with certain of the Surrey fees.⁹⁶

The Lenthall pourparty of the barony did not long preserve its identity. Edmund Lenthall entered upon it in August 1441, soon after coming of age.⁹⁷ In 1444 he settled it upon William, Bishop of Salisbury, and others, including Roland Lenthall his father, doubtless as feoffees to uses of his will.⁹⁸ He died in 1447⁹⁹ and, subject to the life interest of his widow (d. Jan. 1484)¹ and of his father (d. 1450),² the Lenthall third of the barony was shared by the owners of the other two-

thirds. From 1447, therefore, the barony was held in half shares by the Nevills and the Mowbrays.



LENTHALL. Argent a bend cotised sable with three molets or thereon.



NEVILL, Lord Bergavenny. Gules a saltire argent charged with a rose gules.

The descent of the Nevill or Bergavenny portion of the rape and honor presents few problems.³ Elizabeth, wife of Sir Edward Nevill, Lord Bergavenny, died in 1448⁴ and her husband continued to hold part of her half of the honor until his own death in 1476.⁵ He was succeeded by his seconds on George, 4th Lord Bergavenny.⁶ In 1484, on the death of Margaret Tresham, widow of Edmund Lenthall, he entered into full possession of the Sussex lands of his half of the Lenthall third, the demesne manors of Cuckfield, Keymer, and Houndean being divided between the two heirs.⁷ George, 5th Lord Bergavenny, succeeded his father in 1492⁸ and died in 1535, having entailed his lands upon himself and his heirs male, with remainder to his brothers Thomas and Edward respectively in like manner.⁹ His son and successor, Henry, 6th Baron, died in 1587 leaving an only daughter, Lady Mary Fane,¹⁰ so that by terms of the entail the half barony descended to a cousin, Edward Nevill, notwithstanding the attainder of his father Edward, brother of the 5th Lord Bergavenny.¹¹ Edward, 7th Lord Bergavenny, died in 1589¹² and his son and successor, another Edward, in 1622.¹³ The half rape continued to descend with the barony of Bergavenny which was raised to an earldom in 1784.¹⁴ In 1876 William, Earl of Abergavenny, was created Earl of Lewes and Marquess of Abergavenny.¹⁵ Such rights as still persist are vested in his grandson Temple Montacute Larnach-Nevill, 4th Marquess of Abergavenny.

The third share of the barony inherited in 1439 by John de Mowbray, 3rd Duke of Norfolk, Earl of Nottingham, Marshal of England, &c.,¹⁶ became, as has been said above, one half, on the death of Edmund Lenthall in 1447.¹⁷ The 3rd Duke died in 1461 leaving a widow, Eleanor, to whom dower was assigned from

⁹⁰ See *The Book of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 185-91.

⁹¹ *Ibid.* 185, 188, 189.

⁹² *Ibid.* 185-7; *Cal. Pat.* 1441-6, pp. 350-1. Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), 1120, nos. 1, 2; Exch. K.R. Accts. bdle. 515, no. 5.

⁹³ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 187-9.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.* 189.

⁹⁵ These two are identified from the list of fees in *ibid.* p. 193.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.* 190-1.

⁹⁷ *Cal. Pat.* 1436-41, p. 562. His father, however, held a life interest in these possessions: *ibid.* 1441-6, pp. 350-1.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 62; *lv*, 10.

⁹⁹ *Cal. Inq.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 234.

¹ She was assigned in dower the manors of Keymer and Houndean and the so-called manor of 'Aldelegh' or Haldelegh, rents in Cuckfield, 7½ knights' fees and profits and perquisites of courts and view of frank-

pledge in all the hundreds of the rape: *Cal. Inq.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 417; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 62.

² He died holding ⅓ of ⅔ of the customary rent in Guildford, ⅓ of ⅓ of toll and customs, and ⅓ of 25s. 4d. rent in Southwark, ⅓ of a tenement and land in Southwark and Camberwell, all in Surrey: *Cal. Inq.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 248.

³ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 136-7; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 61.

⁴ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 29.

⁵ *Ibid.* 30; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 16 Edw. IV, no. 66; cf. *Cal. Inq.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 379. He did not hold the manor of Rodmell.

⁶ His elder son had died: G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁷ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 1 Ric. III, no. 43; cf. *Cal. Inq.* p.m. (Rec. Com.), iv, 417; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 61.

⁸ *Cal. Pat.* Hen. VII, i, 409; G.E.C. op.

cit. i, 31. For his lands see *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 149-50; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iii (1), 1290, 1291.

⁹ G.E.C. op. cit. i, 32-3.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* i, 34.

¹¹ *Ibid.* i, 34-5; *Suss. Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiii), nos. 100, 102.

¹² *Ibid.* no. 126; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxxiii, 58.

¹³ *Ibid.* ccxcix, 157; G.E.C. op. cit. i, 36. For rentals and customs of his Sussex lands see *The Book of John Rowe, Steward of the Manors of Lord Bergavenny, 1597-1622* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv).

¹⁴ G.E.C. op. cit. i, 42.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* i, 44.

¹⁶ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 187-9.

¹⁷ The duke immediately appointed John Wingfield as steward for the estates coming to him from Edmund Lenthall: *Cat. Anct. D.* iii, C. 3535.

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the Sussex lands,¹⁸ and a son John, born in 1444,¹⁹ who was a minor in the king's wardship²⁰ until 1465 when he was allowed to enter into all his father's possessions.²¹ During his father's lifetime, in 1451, he had been created Earl Warenne and Earl of Surrey,²² these titles having been extinct since the death of Thomas, Earl of Arundel, in 1415.²³ The grant was confirmed by Edward IV in 1462, 'in consideration of his father's services in divers conflicts against the king's adversaries', and carried with it a yearly sum of 20s. from the issues of the counties of both Surrey and Sussex.²⁴



MOWBRAY, Duke of Norfolk. *Gules a lion argent.*

John died in 1476 leaving a four-year-old daughter, Anne.²⁵ His titles then became extinct, but were revived, in part, in favour of Edward IV's second son Richard, who became Duke of York and of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, Earl Warenne, and Earl of Nottingham. To support his new dignities he was married to the heiress Anne Mowbray 'to the grete honoure of her and of her blode' and it was agreed that he should inherit her possessions even if she died without issue.²⁶ Meanwhile, Anne's widowed mother, Elizabeth, Duchess of Norfolk, in view of her daughter's marriage, was induced to surrender the lands of the barony held by her in dower, and to accept instead other manors in Sussex and elsewhere.²⁷

Anne died in 1481;²⁸ her husband was murdered in the Tower in 1483.²⁹ There was no direct heir to this half of the barony and so it was divided among the next of kin, the four surviving heirs of the other daughters of Elizabeth Fitzalan.³⁰ These were John Howard (created Earl Marshal and Duke of Norfolk, 28 June 1483), son of Margaret Mowbray; William, Lord Berkeley (created Earl of Nottingham, 28 June 1483), son of Isabel Mowbray; Sir Thomas Stanley (created Earl of Derby, 27 Oct. 1485), son of Joan Goushill, Elizabeth Fitzalan's daughter by her third husband Sir Robert Goushill; Sir John Wingfield, grandson of Elizabeth Goushill.

The Mowbray half of the barony of Lewes was now to be subdivided so that each of the four heirs would, in 1483, be holding one-eighth of the barony and rape and borough of Lewes, with one-quarter of the original Mowbray manors,³¹ and one-quarter of half the vill of Cuckfield, lately held by Edmund Lenthall.³² An agreement was, however, made by the heirs, that the inheritance of Anne Mowbray should be divided in such a way that the Duke of Norfolk and the Earl of Derby should between them hold the half barony of Lewes

with its lands in Sussex and Surrey, while the Earl of Nottingham and Sir John Wingfield should similarly divide Anne's lands in Wales and Chester.³³ By this arrangement the Duke of Norfolk was to have received the Berkeley eighth of the rape and the Earl of Derby that of Sir John Wingfield, but the agreement was not immediately carried into force.³⁴

William, Lord Berkeley, Earl of Nottingham, instead of handing over his eighth to the Duke of Norfolk, settled it, in 1490, on himself and the heirs of his body, with remainder to the king, Henry VII, and his heirs male.³⁵ In October 1491, in parliament, all fines levied by him to the king's use were confirmed against the Earl of Surrey (son and heir of the late Duke of Norfolk), who was thereby excluded from his title and right in this eighth share.³⁶ The Marquess Berkeley died seised of $\frac{1}{8}$ of the barony of Lewes in 1492. He died without issue and his brother Maurice was declared his heir,³⁷ in spite of the agreement of 1490. In 1504 Maurice, Lord Berkeley, enfeoffed Sir Edward Poyning and others³⁸ to the use, it has been suggested, of the Earl of Surrey.³⁹



BERKELEY. *Gules a chevron between ten crosses formy argent.*



HOWARD, Duke of Norfolk. *Gules a bend between six crosslets fitchy argent with the augmentation for Flodden on the bend.*

Meanwhile, John, Duke of Norfolk, owner of the second $\frac{1}{8}$, had been killed at Bosworth in 1485, and with his son and heir, Thomas, Earl of Surrey, subsequently attainted, and his lands seized by the king.⁴⁰ Thomas was pardoned in 1489,⁴¹ but did not recover possession of his father's lands until 1507, on the death of Elizabeth, Duchess of Norfolk, mother of Anne Mowbray,⁴² and it was not until he had petitioned the new king, Henry VIII, that he was given leave to enter, c. 1512, that $\frac{1}{8}$ share of the barony to which he declared himself entitled by his agreement with the Earl of Nottingham.⁴³

From this time forward the Howard share of the barony of Lewes would be $\frac{1}{8}$, and owing to political complications was continually in and out of the king's

¹⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. 4 Edw. IV, no. 59; cf. *Cal. Inq.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 316-17, 329; *Cal. Pat.* 1467-77, p. 192.

¹⁹ G.E.C. op. cit. (1st ed.), vi, 43. A jointure was provided for his wife Elizabeth from the Sussex lands: *Cal. Pat.* 1461-7, p. 212; Feet of F. Div. Co. Hil. 16 Edw. IV, file 76, no. 116.

²⁰ Cf. *Cal. Pat.* 1461-7, pp. 105, 112, 115, 214, 379.

²¹ Ibid. 477; cf. Chan. Inq. p.m. 4 Edw. IV, no. 72.

²² *Cal. Chart.* vi, 114; *Cal. Pat.* 1461-7, p. 208.

²³ *Dict. Nat. Biog.* Thomas was the brother of Elizabeth, Joan, and Margaret whose heirs partitioned the rape in 1439 on the death of his widow Beatrice.

²⁴ *Cal. Pat.* 1461-7, p. 208. The earlier charter had been annulled by parliament.

²⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. 17 Edw. IV, no. 58.

²⁶ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vi, 43; *Rot. Parl.* vi, 168-9; cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 66.

²⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 3212, 3213; *Cal. Inq.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 386-7; *Rot. Parl.* vi, 169.

²⁸ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vi, 43-4. There appears to be some uncertainty as to the date. Cf. *Cal. Pat.* 1476-85, p. 231, where letters concerning her are dated 15 Feb. 1481.

²⁹ G.E.C. loc. cit.

³⁰ *Stat. Realm* (Rec. Com.), iii, 58-61; see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 70 et seq.

³¹ Viz. Clayton, Piccombe, Brighton,

Allington, Seaford, Middleton, Meeching, and Piddinghoe.

³² The other Lenthall manors, Keymer, Houndean, and 'Haldelegh' being still in the hands of his widow, Margaret Tresham.

³³ *Stat. Realm* (Rec. Com.), iii, 58-61.

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 3269.

³⁶ *Stat. Realm* (Rec. Com.), iii, 59-60.

³⁷ *Cal. Inq. Hen. VII*, i, 878, 879.

³⁸ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 3370.

³⁹ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (ibid. xxxiv), 193; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 82.

⁴⁰ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; *Cal. Pat. Hen. VII*, i, 169.

⁴¹ *Rot. Parl.* vi, 410.

⁴² *Cal. Pat. Hen. VII*, ii, 543.

⁴³ *Stat. Realm* (Rec. Com.), iii, 61.

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hands. Thomas, Earl of Surrey, created Duke of Norfolk in 1514, died in 1524,⁴⁴ when he was succeeded by his son Thomas. Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, forfeited his lands and possessions in 1546 when his son Henry, Earl of Surrey, was attainted for high treason.⁴⁵ His dukedom was, however, restored to him in 1553, and he died the following year.⁴⁶ The fate of his grandson and successor, Thomas Howard, was worse than his own, for he was beheaded for conspiracy with Mary Queen of Scots in 1572, and once more the honours and titles of the family were forfeit.⁴⁷ Thomas had married Lady Mary Fitzalan, heiress of the 12th Earl of Arundel. His eldest son Philip succeeded his maternal grandfather as Earl of Arundel in 1580.⁴⁸ With his brothers, Thomas and William Howard, he was dealing by fine in 1585 with $\frac{1}{4}$ of the manor of Cuckfield, part of the barony.⁴⁹ He unsuccessfully claimed the title of Duke of Norfolk, became a Roman Catholic, and was committed to the Tower, where he died in 1595.⁵⁰ He died attainted, so that his son Thomas was deprived of his honours. On the accession of James I, in 1603, he was created Earl of Arundel and Surrey, but the king kept his property. Some of this he was able to buy back in 1608 with his wife Anne Dacre's money, and in 1610 and 1611 he was dealing by fine with lands of the honor of Lewes.⁵¹ He suffered a recovery of the barony, manor, and borough of Lewes and other land in 1640-1.⁵² He was created Duke of Norfolk in 1644 and died 1646.⁵³ From this time the $\frac{1}{4}$ of the barony and rape of Lewes descended in the family of Howard, Dukes of Norfolk.

The $\frac{1}{4}$ share of Sir John Wingfield presents many difficulties. Sir John was attainted and his estates forfeited for taking part in risings following the accession of Richard III in June 1483, that is to say immediately after the murder of the young Richard, Duke of York and Norfolk.⁵⁴ His estates were restored to him on the accession of Henry VII (1485),⁵⁵ and in April 1487 the king for his good services granted him an annuity of £40 of and in the manors or lordships of Reigate and Dorking, co. Surrey, Lewes, Clayton, Bright-helmeston, Meeching, and Seaford, co. Sussex, late of John, Duke of Norfolk.⁵⁶ How long this grant lasted does not appear. Meanwhile, according to the arrangement made c. 1483 by the



WINGFIELD. *Argent a bend gules cotised sable with three pairs of wings argent on the bend.*

four Mowbray coheirs, Wingfield's $\frac{1}{4}$ of the barony should have been transferred to the Earl of Derby in return for lands in Wales and Chester.⁵⁷ This transfer had certainly been made by 1521.⁵⁸ The lands acquired by Sir John in 1484 upon the death of Margaret Tresham were not, however, included in this arrangement.⁵⁹ They apparently remained in the family until 1539, when Sir Anthony Wingfield⁶⁰ conveyed them to Joan Everard.⁶¹ They consisted of $\frac{1}{4}$ of a moiety of the manors of Houndean, Keymer, 'Haldeleigh', and of lands and rents in Cuckfield, i.e. $\frac{1}{4}$ share of the Lenthall manors formerly held in dower by Edmund Lenthall's widow.⁶² The quitclaim also included $\frac{1}{4}$ of a moiety of the barony, castle, and borough of Lewes,⁶³ but their claim to this was later disputed and disproved,⁶⁴ and the only lords of the rape from 1559 onwards are representatives of the families of Bergavenny, Howard, and Stanley.

Joan Everard settled her part of the rape in 1546 on her daughter Mary, second wife of Richard Bellingham of Hangleton and Newtimber.⁶⁵ After his death, Mary, now widow of George Goring of Ovingdean and Lewes, and her son Edward Bellingham, made a fine with George Smyth and others in 1595,⁶⁶ for purpose of a settlement on Mary for life and her son after her. Mary Goring died in 1602; her son succeeded to her so-called $\frac{1}{4}$ of the barony and of the manors,⁶⁷ and died in 1605, said to be seised of $\frac{1}{4}$ of the castle and barony of Lewes, and of $\frac{1}{4}$ of the manors of Houndean, Keymer, 'Hall Lee', Court Bushes, Cuckfield, Cuckfield Clauditor, held of the king in chief and valued at £5.⁶⁸ His son, Sir Edward Bellingham, died in 1637, still claiming $\frac{1}{4}$ of the castle and barony and manors,⁶⁹ and leaving as his heir his cousin Cecily, wife of Thomas West and daughter of Richard Bellingham, deceased (brother of Edward Bellingham, father of Sir Edward).⁷⁰ Cecily's son Henry West of Woodman-cote⁷¹ and his wife Alice in 1670 made a settlement of $\frac{1}{4}$ of a moiety of the castle and barony and also of the borough and manor of Lewes, with $\frac{1}{4}$ of a moiety of the manor of Houndean, on himself and heirs⁷² and the next year conveyed it to William Spence.⁷³ In 1672 $\frac{1}{4}$ of a moiety of the castle of Lewes and of the manor of Houndean were the object of a fine between Sir John Stapley as deforciant and John Stonestreet and Martha Stonestreet, widow, plaintiffs,⁷⁴ but there is no further evidence forthcoming concerning this so-called Wingfield eighth share of the barony.

The fourth of the Mowbray heirs, Sir Thomas Stanley who inherited $\frac{1}{4}$ of the barony had made com-

⁴⁴ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁴⁵ The proceeds of some of the lands of the honor went to the king's uncle, Thomas Seymour: *Cal. Pat. Edw. VI*, i, 27.

⁴⁶ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁴⁷ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vi, 53. He is named as one of the three lords of the barony of Lewes in 1559 and 1565, the other two being Lord Bergavenny and the Earl of Derby: *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iii), 9, 26.

⁴⁸ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁴⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 116.

⁵⁰ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁵¹ Viz. $\frac{1}{4}$ manor of Keymer and $\frac{1}{4}$ manor of Middleton: *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 251; *ibid.* xx, 306.

⁵² *Recov. R. Hil.* 15 Chas. I, m. 6.

⁵³ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vi, 54.

⁵⁴ *Rot. Parl.* vi, 244-50.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* 273.

⁵⁶ *Cal. Pat. Hen. VII*, i, 169.

⁵⁷ *Stat. Realm* (Rec. Com.), iii, 58-61.

⁵⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), xxxviii, 10; lxxxi, 247. See below, p. 7.

⁵⁹ *Stat. Realm* (Rec. Com.), iii, 58-61.

⁶⁰ Grandson of Sir John: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 19.

⁶¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 271-2. Cf. Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (*Ardingly*), 26, 318-21; (*Lewes*), 10; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 88-9.

⁶² *Ibid.*; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 1 Ric. III, no. 43. The rents in Cuckfield appear to have represented the manor of Cuckfield Clauditor (q.v.); cf. *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 330; and see below, p. 157.

⁶³ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 271-2.

⁶⁴ In 1613: *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 145-6.

⁶⁵ Add. MS. 39497, fol. 44, *ibid.* 39495, fol. 368; Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (*Lewes*), 9-10. Cf. *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), no. 382;

Renshaw, 'Manor of Keymer', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 19.

⁶⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 272.

⁶⁷ *Inq.* (*ibid.* xiv), 484.

⁶⁸ *Inq.* (*ibid.* xxxiii), 196.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* xiv, 109. But see *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 145-6, for his claim to the barony: he had sold $\frac{1}{4}$ manor of Keymer in 1620: *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 251.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.* xx, 500; Comber, *loc. cit.* In 1648 Cecily and her son Walter West and her second husband Henry Rolt conveyed $\frac{1}{4}$ manors of Cuckfield, Haldleigh, and Cuckfield Clauditor to Sir Thomas Hendley: *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 118.

⁷¹ Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (*Horsham*), 365.

⁷² Dunkin Coll. B.M. Add. MS. 39495, fol. 370, citing Close R. 22 Chas. II, pt. i, ro. 10.

⁷³ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 272.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

THE RAPE AND HONOR OF LEWES BOROUGH OF LEWES

pact, as has been said above, to take over the Wingfield $\frac{1}{8}$ share in return for lands in Chester and Wales.⁷⁵ When, if ever, he did so, does not appear since no inquisition *post mortem* has been found.⁷⁶ He died in 1504 and his grandson Thomas son of Sir George Stanley, Lord Lestrage, entered straightaway upon his inheritance.⁷⁷ He was the 2nd Earl of Derby. At the time of his death, May 1521, he appears to have been holding, in addition to the original $\frac{1}{8}$ barony, the $\frac{1}{8}$ inherited in 1483 by Sir John Wingfield, but, as has been already stated, not the Lenthall share that fell to Wingfield after Margaret Tresham's death in 1484.⁷⁸ So, though the Earl of Derby held half the manors of the Mowbray Dukes of Norfolk, i.e. Meeching, Piddinghoe, Cuckfield, Allington, and Seaford, &c., he held only his original $\frac{1}{8}$ share in Houndean, Keymer, Cuckfield Clauditor, and 'Haldelegh'.⁷⁹ Edward, 3rd Earl of Derby, a minor at the time of his father's death, obtained possession of his lands in 1531.⁸⁰ It is clear that during his lifetime at least, the barony of Lewes was shared by three owners, namely, the Lord Bergavenny (whose share was $\frac{1}{3}$), the Duke of Norfolk, and himself.⁸¹ He was succeeded in 1572 by his son Henry, who in 1576 alienated $\frac{1}{4}$ of the barony, borough, and manor of Lewes, with $\frac{1}{4}$ of the hundreds of the rape, and



STANLEY. *Argent a bend azure with three harts' heads caboshed or thereon.*

$\frac{1}{2}$ the manors of Brighthelmston, Meeching, Allington, and Seaford to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst.⁸² Lord Buckhurst was later created Earl of Dorset, and was followed in 1608 by his son Robert who died the following year and was succeeded by his son Richard,⁸³ to whom King James I appears to have confirmed $\frac{1}{4}$ of the barony in 1611-12.⁸⁴ He was dealing with his $\frac{1}{4}$ by fine in 1617.⁸⁵



SACKVILLE. *Quarterly gules and or a bend vair.*



WEST. *Argent a fesse dancetty sable.*

The $\frac{1}{4}$ lordship appears to have followed the line of the Earls and Dukes of Dorset⁸⁶ until the death in 1815, without issue, of George John Frederick the 4th duke, when the Sackville property was divided between his two sisters,⁸⁷ the barony of Lewes falling to the younger sister Elizabeth, wife of George John Sackville-West, Earl De La Warr.⁸⁸ In 1835 her husband was one of the three lords of the honor,⁸⁹ but since this time any rights specifically connected with the barony appear to have lapsed.

THE BOROUGH OF LEWES

Lewes now lies on both sides of the River Ouse, but the original town was built on a spur of the Downs that descends to the right bank of the river from the west. The High Street traverses the spine of this promontory and is continued across Lewes Bridge through the suburb of Cliffe (in the Rape of Pevensey), which lies in the valley overshadowed by an isolated group of Downs on the east. The site of the town was naturally defended by the three slopes, east, north, and south, the river skirting the two former and its seasonal tributary, the Winterbourne, the last. On the high ground to the west a defence of earthworks, probably of Saxon date,¹ can still be traced each side of the site of the medieval West Gate.

The walls of the town ran north and south of the East Gate (situated some 100 yards west of Lewes Bridge) and then turned westward at the foot of the hill slope. It is probable that at an early date some responsibility for maintaining the town defences fell on the manors or military tenants of the barony. In 1275 Earl John de Warenne was said to have exacted £5 from each knight's fee in the honor of Lewes towards the cost of walling the town.² This had probably happened in 1267, in which year the earl specifically re-

leased the Abbey of Hyde from all claims for walling the town due for their manors of Southease and Telscombe;³ and this may be connected with the royal grant of murage for three years made to the bailiffs and good men of Lewes in May 1266 at the request of the earl,⁴ possibly influenced by the ease with which the Barons had taken the town after the Battle of Lewes. Another royal grant of murage was made, for five years, in 1334.⁵ It is uncertain whether any stone wall existed on the east, where the river protected the approach. On the north the wall encloses an ancient earthwork,⁶ occupied by the churchyard of St. John-sub-Castro, and joins the castle defences, from which it climbs the hill to join the West Gate. On the south it takes a straight course, with one exit called Watergate, and turns, east of Keere Street, forming a facing to the Saxon earth wall on the south side of the West Gate.

The ancient boundaries of the borough included a considerable area outside the walls. Starting from Lewes Bridge and following the river south-eastwards they turned west, enclosing the house and property of the Grey Friars. Thence they proceeded westwards, coinciding with the boundary of All Saints parish, and passed north through the suburb of Westout to a

⁷⁵ *Stat. Realm* (Rec. Com.), iii, 58-61.
⁷⁶ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 205-7.
⁷⁷ *Ibid.*; *Cal. Pat. Hen. VII*, ii, 397.
⁷⁸ Cf. Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), xxxviii, 10; lxxxi, 2407. See above, p. 6.
⁷⁹ Inq. (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 330; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 84.
⁸⁰ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 209-11.
⁸¹ Inq. (Suss. Rec. Soc. iii), 6, 9, 26.
⁸² *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 63. He had previously disposed of other portions

of the barony: *ibid.* 105, 116, 231, 306.
⁸³ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 422-4; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccxi, 110; cccxii, 128; Inq. (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiii), 214.
⁸⁴ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 212.
⁸⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 212-13.
⁸⁶ Cf. *Ibid.* 272 (1674-5); 272-3 (1710).
⁸⁷ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 163-4, 429-30. The last duke's mother apparently retained the lordship until her death (1825): Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 137.
⁸⁸ Add. MS. 39473, fol. 1 v.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.* 39497, fol. 313, citing Repts. of Copyhold Com.
¹ This lofty bank defending the approach to a promontory site has considerable resemblance to the earthwork at Burpham, near Arundel, which is generally assigned to the Saxon period.
² *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 210.
³ Add. MS. 5700, fol. 91.
⁴ *Cal. Pat.* 1258-66, p. 590.
⁵ *Ibid.* 1330-4, p. 517.
⁶ It contains nearly 2 acres and is roughly rectangular.

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boundary stone, near St. Anne's (formerly St. Mary Westout) Church in Ireland's Lane. From the end of this line they passed north-east, skirting the outside of Hangman's Acre, as far as the Town Brooks, where they turned east to the river and along the water to Lewes Bridge.

The two other important suburbs, now within the borough, were formerly independent of its jurisdiction. Southover, which grew up outside the gates of the

the deep valley at White Hill filled up some 30 to 40 ft. by the trustees of the Offham turnpike.⁷ The Uckfield road, which used to descend to South Malling, has been straightened to the junction with the Hailsham road. The main Eastbourne road leaves Cliffe in a southerly direction and turns east at Southerham. The oldest road in the vicinity is probably that which is now in part Southover High Street, and which struck westwards over the Downs towards Kingston Hill (called



Priory of St. Pancras, occupies the slightly rising ground south of the Winterbourne stream. Cliffe lies east of Lewes Bridge, and although in the Rape of Pevensey, had a close connexion with the town from the earliest times. The boundaries were enlarged in the years 1881 and 1934. Modern building estates have been developed on the Wallands (NW.), Malling Hill (NE.), the Neville estate (W.), and on the Kingston Road (SW.). A new estate is now being built east of the Wallands and of the Offham Road.

The main communication roads out of Lewes have been altered from time to time to ease their gradients and improve their direction. The old Brighton road originally followed the valley some distance south of the present one, and was approached from the west end of Southover, where it forked right from the Newhaven road. The London road (via East Grinstead) was re-cut on the side of the hill as far as Offham and

the Juggs Road), and eastwards past the Dripping Pan and Ham field to Southerham, where a ford crossed the river.⁸ The Roman road from London to the coast at the mouth of the Ouse seems to have missed the site of Lewes and crossed by Malling Hill.⁹

Six railway lines of the Southern Railway radiate from Lewes, towards London, Brighton, Newhaven (and Seaford), Eastbourne (and Hastings), Uckfield, and East Grinstead. The opening of the railway from Lewes to Brighton occurred on 8 June 1846 and that to Hastings on 27 June following. The railway to Newhaven was opened on 6 December 1847. The old railway station was situated in Friars Walk near the East Gate, but in 1868 a new station was constructed nearer to the site of the Priory, and in 1888 the present station was built.

In 1846 the coach service included one to London, leaving Lewes at 10 on Monday, Wednesday, and

⁷ *Handbook for Lewes*, by Mark Antony Lower, undated (c. 1846).

⁹ *V.C.H. Suss.* iii, 69; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxiv, 39-43.

⁸ *Arch. J.* lxxii, 225.



LEWES BRIDGE, 1782
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



E. J. Bedford, F.R.P.S., photo.

LEWES: THE HIGH STREET



E. J. Bedford, F.R.P.S., photo.

LEWES: BULL HOUSE

Friday, and arriving at 5 on alternate days. There was an hourly service to Brighton and a coach from Brighton to Tunbridge Wells passed through Lewes three times a week.¹⁰ Since 1920 the Southdown Motor Bus Company has inaugurated constant services between Lewes and every part of the country-side.

Lewes Bridge over the Ouse probably replaces a ford of Roman, or earlier, date.¹¹ The bridge was repaired in 1159¹² and is referred to from time to time from the middle of the 13th century onwards.¹³ It was rebuilt about 1561,¹⁴ repaired in 1652,¹⁵ and swept away by a high tide in 1726.¹⁶ The present bridge is carried by a single stone arch, the keystone of which bears the date 1727, the name of the surveyor, N. Dubois, and that of the mason, A. Morris. It was reconstructed and widened in 1932 and has iron railings in place of parapets. The river bank between the bridge and 'the house of one Rede in All Saints parish', a distance of 80 ft., was the town wharf in 1680.¹⁷ A 'new wharf at the Bridge' was built in 1770-1, and repaired in 1802.¹⁸ Proceeding west from the bridge along the south side of the High Street one passes the site of the Grey Friars¹⁹ who occupied the land between the river and the east wall of the town. The Tabernacle (Congregational) Church on part of the site was built in 1816 and has a large Classic portico and a well-designed interior. The Goods Station of the Southern Railway adjoins it, and the Uckfield line passes over the street by an iron bridge. At the corner of High Street and Friars Walk is the Fitzroy Public Library, erected in 1862 to the memory of Henry Fitzroy, M.P. for Lewes. Friars Walk follows the interior line of the town walls, from the site of East Gate.

The High Street from this point ascends steeply to the War Memorial, and for this portion of its length is called School Hill, a name that has been traced back as far as 1498.²⁰ No. 14 is an 18th-century house with a good brick front and panellled rooms. One room on the first floor is lined throughout with Elizabethan oak panelling, probably from the former house on the site. No. 22 (lately fitted with new shops) and No. 23 are 18th-century buildings, the latter with its old plastered front, quoined angles, and pedimental over-door. No. 31 (built in 1730 as an Almshouse or Workhouse for All Saints) has now an early-19th-century front, and is at the corner of Broomans Lane,²¹ commemorating a family that lived in Lewes in the 14th century. No. 32 (Lewes House, formerly Bugates) is a mid-18th-century house, enlarged on the street side about 1812.²² Its grounds of some 2½ acres belonged to the manor of Hurstpierpoint and were given in the 14th century to the Brotherhood of St. Sebastian.²³ Church Lane separates Lewes House from School Hill House²⁴ (formerly Lorkins), a fine early-18th-century building, the site of which belonged to the Bishop of Chichester's manor of Bishopstone. It is bounded on the west by Walwers Lane, named from a family of whom William Walwer was M.P. for Lewes in 1319

and 1323-4. The next lane is St. Nicholas Lane, formerly Dolphin Lane. The house at the west corner (No. 42) is partly of Tudor construction with early-16th-century moulded oak beams above the ground floor. No 43 has two stone arches, apparently medieval, and an Elizabethan stone fire-place on the second floor. The boundary of All Saints parish and that of St. John-sub-Castro runs between Nos. 44 and 45. No. 49 is on the site of the church of St. Mary-in-Foro, from which the lane running south was called St. Mary's Lane,²⁵ now altered to Station Street. The house still retained medieval features at the end of the 18th century, but these have disappeared.²⁶

At this point the High Street widens and the old market-place begins. Nos. 53 and 54 are old timber-framed buildings and adjoin the White Hart Hotel, which was formerly the town house of the Pelham family. The house has a 19th-century front, but the flint wall to the west of the entrance yard is of Elizabethan date. It has a gable with stone coping and a large contemporary stone mullioned window, with five lights above and below an intermediate transom. The room to which the window belongs is now the hotel kitchen and the range has been set into a large arched stone fire-place, of which the jambs and spandrels remain. The two front rooms on the first floor are panellled in oak (c. 1600). The White Hart is the first house in the former parish of St. Andrew, now united with St. Michael's. The old Sessions House and Town Hall used to stand in the street in front of it. In St. Andrew's Lane, on the west side, is Pelham House, built originally by George Goring in 1579 at a cost of £2,000.²⁷ It passed through the Courthopes to the Pelhams and thence to William Campion, who remodelled the house between 1790 and 1812; it is now the office of the Clerk to the East Sussex County Council. It is faced with red brick, but much of the original external walling remains encased in the later fabric, and the general plan of the building with its angle pavilions is largely preserved. The south-west room is furnished with elaborately carved oak panelling of the 16th century, with some added features of 18th-century date. The mouldings of the panels are slightly bolection in form and are mitred at the angles; they range four panels high and are divided at intervals by fluted pilasters with pedestals and Corinthian capitals. An entablature surrounds the room, above the pilasters, with lion-head masks on the frieze and carved brackets over the capitals. An attic two panels high is finished by a Georgian cornice. In the attic in line with the pilasters are caryatides with baskets of fruit and flowers upon their heads, and one male bearded figure, apparently a portrait, with similar head-dress, clasping a jar on which is inscribed *ΙΗΘΝ ΗΑΘΟΗ*. The lower part of the figures are carved pedestals with strapwork and masks, and that beneath John Hathorne has the date 1579.²⁸ The fire-place and overmantel are of the 18th century, but the latter incorporates two arched panels with fluted pilasters and rayed tympana,

¹⁰ Lower, op. cit.

¹¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxiii, 209.

¹² *Pipe R. 6 Hen. II* (Pipe R. Soc.), 55.

¹³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxiii, 173, 178.

¹⁴ Horsfield, *Hist. of Lewes*, i, 208;

¹⁵ Town-book, i, ff. 10v, 11.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* f. 83v.

¹⁷ Horsfield, op. cit. 209; cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 194.

¹⁸ Exch. Spec. Com. 6501.

¹⁹ Constables' Accts.

²⁰ See below, pp. 36-7.

²¹ *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 69.

²² Occurs as 'Bronemannestret' in 1353: Anct. Deeds (P.R.O.), A. 4190.

²³ A drawing of this house, made c. 1790, is in Add. MS. 5677, fol. 3.

²⁴ Anct. Deeds (P.R.O.) A. 4186. This appears to be the only reference to any gild existing in Lewes.

²⁵ Also drawn in Add. MS. 5677. Church Lane was formerly Pinwell Street.

²⁶ 'Seyntemariestrete' in 13th century: *Lewes Chartulary* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), ii, 22, 23. 'Seyntemarielane' in 1332: Anct. Deeds (P.R.O.), A. 4111.

²⁷ A drawing made c. 1790 (Add. MS. 5677, fol. 3) shows a stone wall beneath the overhanging story with a door and two-light window apparently of the 13th century.

²⁸ *Suss. N. & Q.* i, 22.

²⁹ *Ibid.* ii, 21.

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which enclose two achievements of arms recording the marriages of the two brothers Henry and George Goring with two sisters Dorothy and Mary, daughters of William Everard of Albourne. The arms²⁹ are quarterly of 8: 1. Goring; 2. Dyke (two molets only are given on the chief instead of three); 3. Camoys; 4. Dawtreys; 5. Radimall; 6. Covert; 7. Pelham; 8. Courcy, impaling: paly of 3: 1. Everard; 2. Erneley; 3. Darell. The lion crest on a helm occurs over each shield, with tassels in place of mantling.

It is probable that the church of St. Andrew fronted on the High Street, west of St. Andrew's Lane. Part of its site was occupied until recently by a fine arcaded shopfront of the late 18th century, which has now been removed to the Municipal Museum at Hull. The door-case of the central entrance alone remains *in situ*. Watergate Lane is the next turning southwards. In the basement of No. 66 are remains of a medieval window and doorway to the street, such as all the houses fronting the market-place appear to have had. The basements were approached by steps, half under trap-doors in the footway and half within the building. No. 67 is St. Michael's Church House, formerly belonging to the church of St. Andrew. It has been practically rebuilt but retains its original king-post and other timbers in the street gable, which is probably of the 14th century. Under No. 72 is a high medieval pointed barrel-vault of stone; it has no special feature but is, like that now beneath the Town Hall, an example of what was probably the normal undercroft of the original houses adjoining the market-place.

St. Martin's Lane takes its name from a parish church which had vanished before 1545.³⁰ The lane was also known as Market Lane since it joined the High Street at the west end of the market-place, where the Cross stood. At the western corner of the lane is a 14th-century house (No. 74) of oak framing with an overhanging upper story, which projected over the lane as well as the High Street, with a large shaped corner-post at the angle. The north overhang is now covered by a shopfront but on the east the shaped joists which carry the upper framing are intact, with a bracket-post at the south end and another intermediate one. The room on the first floor (the solar) is of two roof bays, with a heavy chamfered oak truss forming a three-centred arch. The tie-beam has a segmental curve which mitres with two curved brackets, which again mitre with the wall-posts, leaving two small pierced spandrels. The room is ceiled above the tie-beam, but above is a king-post with the usual four-way struts. In the external wall of this room overlooking the lane are three panels of oak 14th-century tracery, with two slender shafts and caps, trefoil cusped heads, and a row of pierced quatrefoils above.³¹ The sill is covered by a horizontal moulded timber which traverses the whole eastern front, and near its southern end there are the two jambs of a second similar panel which has lost its shafts and traceried head. (Remains of the jambs of a similar panel were found in the adjoining house (No. 76) during its recent restoration.) South of this medieval wing is a small Elizabethan building of two stories, with a three-light oak window looking east, with moulded frame, and above it a section of a moulded

oak wall-plate. The main part of the house to the west, which no doubt contained the hall, shows no ancient features, but to the west of this is a room with a 16th-century stone fire-place with arched head and chamfered jambs, now mostly hidden by a modern mantel-piece. In the basement of this part of the house the medieval masonry and some stone stairs are intact.

At the west corner of the next lane, St. Swithin's, which leads to a lane parallel with the High Street, called Steward's Inn,³² is a large stone-faced house of the later 18th century called St. Swithin's House (No. 82). It has a good entrance door with Ionic pilasters, level entablature, and fanlight of Chippendale Gothic character. The interior is panelled and has enriched fire-places, overmantels, and cornices of the period. The rooms of the upper floors are panelled with Elizabethan oak panelling, taken doubtless from the house formerly on the site.

At the west corner of Bull Lane is Bull House, a medieval building formerly an inn, and behind it is the Westgate (Unitarian) Chapel, which is the shell of an Elizabethan house erected by Sir Henry Goring in 1583. Bull House³³ is an L-shaped building with a gable to the street, and its main structure dates from the 15th century. It is of three stories with a basement, the front room having heavy oak joists that originally projected over the street to carry an overhanging gable, since cut back. The heavy 15th-century joists continue southwards over the present staircase hall and are tenoned into a large moulded beam within the living-room beyond. This room was probably a hall, open to the roof, but was floored over at the beginning of the 16th century with stop-chamfered joists of small section. At the same time a large chimney-stack was inserted, which has the remains of a moulded chimney-beam. In the restoration of the house in 1922 a stone shield bearing the Pelham arms was found and is now fixed in the chimney-breast. In the east wall is a blocked oak Elizabethan window. The rooms on the first and second floors retain their massive oak posts and beams, of king-post construction, the front room on the first floor alone having joists of the early 16th century. Projecting from the east front of the medieval building is a structure of Elizabethan date which probably formed the porch to Goring's house. It is timber-framed above and overhangs the ground floor, and has two carved oak Satyrs which act as brackets, a female figure at the external angle, and a similar male bearded figure where it joins the main building. The house, which was for some years the residence of Thomas Paine, then excise-man and later author of *The Rights of Man*, is now vested in the Sussex Archaeological Trust.

The Elizabethan house has been gutted and re-roofed, its four external walls alone remaining. They are faced with flint, with stone quoins and a plinth with stone weathering. The building is a rectangle 58 ft. from east to west and 46 ft. from north to south. The southern half of this is spanned by a roof with gables to the west and to the east overlooking Bull Lane. An original blocked window of three lights is preserved in the eastern gable, the rest of the fenestration having

²⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxviii, 79.

³⁰ See below, p. 41.

³¹ Parker figures this as a window in *Domestic Architecture* (1859), iii, 126. There is no sign of rebating for glazing,

and it is more probable that it formed part of a decorative arcading to the building. The design follows closely the 14th-century screenwork found in Sussex churches.

³² Mentioned in 1498: *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 97, 100.

³³ See W. H. Godfrey, *At the Sign of the Bull* (1924).

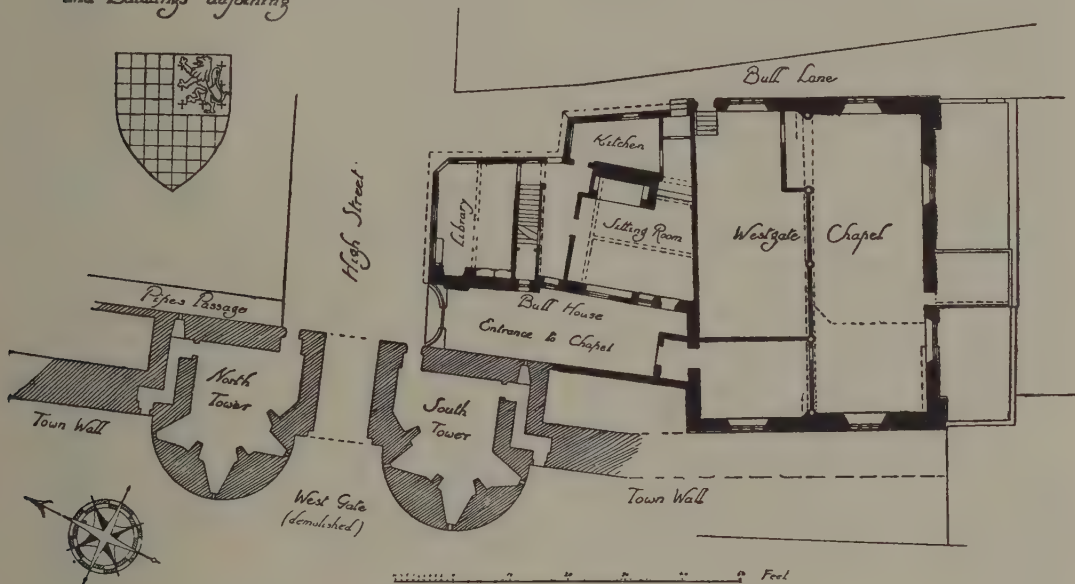
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been altered to suit the chapel, which has a single window of three lights above and below a central transom, formed from the stonework of the old windows, the position of which can be traced in the flint facing. The wall of the northern half of the building remains for little more than half its height and retains an entrance doorway with stone jambs and four-centred head. The upper story of the porch building is plastered and has twin gables towards Bull Lane. West of Bull House is a small entrance court now serving the chapel and bounded on the west by No. 93 High Street, which was built about 1790 on the site of the southern bastion of the West Gate. The east wall of the house is faced

has a large open fire-place in its main ground-floor room with an arched oak chimney-beam of unusual size, with spandrels carved with leaf ornament. The front room is panelled with Elizabethan oak panelling and has an overmantel of two arched panels, with fluted arch-moulds of the same date, over an elaborate Georgian fire-place. There is a good 18th-century summerhouse in the garden.

Antioch House (No. 104) and its garden belonged to the manor of Plumpton. It is a large house very much altered from time to time, but retains some Elizabethan stone windows. The date 1671 occurs on a rainwater head and 1763 on a south projection. On

*West Gate Lewes
and Buildings adjoining*



with green-sandstone from the town wall, on the line of which it stands, and some of the stones of the West Gate are incorporated in the entrance to the chapel.

Nos. 99 and 100, west of Keere Street,³⁴ form a three-storied timber-framed building of Elizabethan date which has recently been stripped of its plaster face to expose the oak frame. It has a wing on the west side with bold projections of both the first and second stories towards the street, the upper overhang being carried by curved oak brackets. The first floor overhangs Keere Street, the framing being supported by shaped oak joists. There is a large open fire-place within, and some small portions of 16th-century panelling. In the framing on the High Street side is fixed an old milestone recording the distances of 50 miles from the Standard in Cornhill, 49 to Westminster Bridge, and 8 miles to Brighthelmston. This stone was formerly in the wall of the house (now demolished) on the opposite side of the way.

The parish boundary between St. Michael's and St. Anne's passes between Nos. 101 and 102, which with No. 103 have now 18th-century fronts. No. 103 is, however, mainly of early-16th-century date and

the first floor over a chimney-breast is an early-17th-century wall-painting of a sporting scene. Rotten Row³⁵ enters the High Street here by a circular-fronted Georgian Cottage (No. 105). Antioch Street, the next turning, appears formerly to have led down to Southover, but had been closed before 1595,³⁶ after a fire, which seems to have occurred in 1559.³⁷ Beyond it is St. Anne's Rectory (No. 110) on the site of the church of St. Peter Westout. St. Anne's House (No. 111) is an early-Georgian house, remodelled in the late 18th century. It has the date 1719 with initials I.A. on a rainwater head. The same initials (for John Apsley) and the date 1753 are on the garden wall. Between this and the churchyard of St. Anne's Church are a number of 18th-century houses and cottages, among which the chief are Hill Lodge (No. 118), Ashdown House (No. 119), and the old rectory of St. Michael's (Nos. 120-1).

Opposite St. Anne's Church on the north side of the street is Ireland's Lane, mentioned by John Rowe as '*alias* Bukettwin where the bounderstone of this Burrowe lyeth.' Eastwards is the Pelham Arms, an inn with the sign of the Dog from 1745 to 1784.³⁸ A

³⁴ 'Kerestrate' is mentioned in 1272: Rowe (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 125.
Anct. Deeds (P.R.O.), A. 4185.

³⁶ Ibid. 122.

³⁷ Suss. Arch. Coll. xiii, 8, 9.

³⁸ Rate-books of St. Anne's parish.

little farther east is Shelleys, now a private hotel. The part of this house towards the street is Elizabethan, altered and furnished with new windows in the 18th century. The central projecting porch has an original stone doorway with four-centred moulded arch and jambs, moulded stops and in the spandrels ANNO 1577. T.P. The arch is within a framework composed of an entablature resting on two Doric columns and within the porch is an original moulded oak frame to the entrance. The initials are those of Thomas Pelland, beer-brewer, and at that time the house was an inn with the sign of the Vine.³⁹ The most interesting internal feature belonging to this period is the mural painting on the walls of one of the rooms on the first floor. The main scheme is a trellis with interlacing lozenges at the intersections, the spaces being filled with floral patterns, and the frequent repetition of bunches of grapes. At the top is a broad frieze of finely drawn amorini and birds in the midst of a running floral pattern.⁴⁰ There is some Elizabethan panelling on the first floor, and in the entrance hall is a stone tablet with the Shelley arms supported on either side by amorini. This tablet must have been brought to the house since the Shelley family first occupied it in 1663. They remained until 1859 and during their occupation large additions were made on the north front, mostly during the 18th century. These rooms are excellent examples of the Georgian period.

The next building eastwards is the Grammar School, a modern structure on the site of the Chantry House, the endowment of Sherman's Chantry in St. Peter Westout.⁴¹ The property was given in 1709 by Mrs. Mary Jenkins of Chelsea to the Lewes Grammar School and served as the schoolmaster's house until the school was moved here from Southover. Little Owsden (No. 138) and its neighbour Owsden House (No. 139) were formerly one house. In the former, which is largely timber-framed, is some good oak panelling c. 1600. On a gable looking north is the date 1654. Tyne House (No. 140), the Lewes and County Club (No. 141), and the Corner House (No. 142) are all of the 18th century. No. 143, the head-quarters of the Y.M.C.A., is on the site of an important building once the home of John Rowe, and the last house in St. Anne's parish. Westgate Street or White Lion Lane, named from an inn of which records exist since the time of Queen Elizabeth and now (1939) being demolished, turns to the north outside the town walls. Within No. 147 and its neighbour the Lewes Masonic Hall is a considerable section of the northern bastion of the West Gate.⁴² This was built about 1300, and consisted of two square towers, with circular fronts to the west, flanking the gateway. The whole building measured 68 ft. across and 30 ft. in depth, the gate itself being 10 ft. wide.⁴³ The basement of the northern tower is now the cellar under the Freemasons' Hall, and part of the external facing of the curved bastion, of greensand stone ashlar,

is visible under the floor of the building. The external face of the town wall aligned with the western arch of the gate, and its junction with the bastion can be seen. The wall stands for some 10 ft. of its height within the building and can be viewed from the first floor of the Freemasons' Hall, whence it continues northwards alongside Pipes Passage. The passage-way mounts by means of steps the earth bank, part of the Saxon defence to the western approach to the town.

Next to St. Michael's Church eastwards is an old house, built in the 16th century, which formerly belonged to Lord Howard of Effingham. Nos. 163 and 164 are tile-hung, with an early-18th-century eaves cornice. Nos. 165-7, built about 1812, with a front adorned with pilasters of the 'Ammonite Order', stand on the site of the White Horse Inn. The centre house, Castle Place, was the residence of Dr. Gideon Mantell, the discoverer of the *Iguanodon*.⁴⁴ In front of Castle-gate, leading to Lewes Castle, formerly stood the Market House at the western end of the market. Barbican House (No. 169) at the eastern corner of Castlegate, the head-quarters of the Sussex Archaeological Society, is an Elizabethan house, refronted and to some extent remodelled in the 18th century. It retains a stone fire-place on the ground floor, with four-centred arched head and moulded jambs, which in its spandrels has leaf sprays, the initials I.M.H., and the date 1579. In the ceiling of this room are contemporary moulded oak beams, and similar beams occur upon the first floor. The upper part of the main stair has spiral balusters of the time of Charles II and the first-floor landing has an enriched ceiling of the same date. The rooms fronting the street have 18th-century fire-places, &c., and the lower flight of the stair is of the same period. The framing of the roofs and of the upper story is of heavy oak of the latter part of the 16th century. A room on the first floor is panelled with Tudor panelling from Bishopstone Manor House. Nos. 171-2 (rebuilt in the 18th century) were formerly one house devised to the poor of Lewes by Thomas Blunt in 1611. No. 173 (Moat House),⁴⁵ now rebuilt, retains two 18th-century panelled rooms, and its earlier Elizabethan and 17th-century fittings are now at the Museum at Anne of Cleves House, Southover. Nos. 174 and 175 were formerly one house (Morley House) with three gables and tile-hung upper story. This is an oak-framed building of the latter part of the 16th century and contains a considerable amount of Elizabethan oak panelling. In the rebuilt front of the Rainbow Tavern (No. 180) is an elaborately carved key-stone mask from its 18th-century predecessor. Pope's Entry passes under the building to the Castle Ditch where, built into a stable, is the arch of a 16th-century doorway enriched with guilloche ornament. The East Sussex County Council offices on the site of Newcastle House (Nos. 181-3, the last house in St. Michael's parish) have been built as a replica of the old building⁴⁶ and preserve on the front the sundial

³⁹ A late-16th- or early-17th-century wooden sign from this house, with an infant Bacchus riding a barrel between bunches of grapes, is in the possession of the Sussex Archaeological Society.

⁴⁰ The painting is reproduced in colour by Mr. F. W. Reader in *The Archaeological Journal*, xciii, 230 (plate v). Mr. Reader considers the frieze may have been painted by one of the Bernardis.

⁴¹ See below, p. 42.

⁴² At a court of the barony held in 1356

it was presented that: 'the eighth part of all the lands and tenements belonging *ad gatag*' *Porte de Lewes* remain in the hands of the Lady [Joan, widow of Earl John] by reason of the minority of Isabel daughter and other heir of Beatrice de Horcombe': Norfolk Muniments, bde. A. This suggests a serjeanty of the gate, but the allusion is unfortunately isolated.

⁴³ A plan of the gate (see above, p. 11) is preserved in *Spicilegia* (MS. in Barbican

House Library) and in the Burrell Collections, where there are also views of it (Add. MS. 5677, ff. 8, 9).

⁴⁴ For his *Journal* see *Sussex County Mag.* xii.

⁴⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxviii, 67-78.

⁴⁶ *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 241. The new building is some 3 ft. higher and is faced with Portland stone. Newcastle House was stuccoed over Caen stone from the priory, and had shops on the ground floor.

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with the date 1717. A large panelled room, with two free Corinthian columns, two marble chimney-pieces, and an interesting staircase have been preserved from Newcastle House and incorporated in the building. The County Hall was erected in 1812 from the designs of Mr. John Johnston of Camden Town. It is faced with Portland stone and has an open colonnade (now partly filled in) on the ground floor between two wings of which the lower parts are in rusticated masonry. Behind on the ground floor are the Courts where the assizes, &c., are held. The first floor is occupied by a large room 60 ft. by 30 ft. and 27 ft. high, lighted by tall windows on the street front. Above the three central windows are panels carved in relief, and the whole building is crowned by a simple modillion cornice.

Fisher Street⁴⁷ (in line with Station Street on the south) marks the eastern limit of the market-place, and near its eastern angle with the High Street is the present Town Hall. Its 14th-century undercroft probably belonged to the house of Robert Spicer, M.P. for Lewes 1322-4. The principal compartment, 46 ft. by 20 ft., with its longer side adjoining the High Street has walls of sandstone rubble 4 ft. high, which support an elliptical barrel vault, the crown of which is 10 ft. 9 in. above the paved floor. The vault is of ashlar and its excellent condition suggests that it may have been worked over or renewed in the 18th century. A spiral stone staircase (shaped as part of an octagon outside) projects into the north-west corner of the undercroft and has a three-centred stone doorway. The stairway to the street is 5 ft. wide and commences well within the vault, between wing walls of ashlar, and beneath a chamfered segmental arch of two orders, the first and lower order having corbelled shoulders. The staples for a door at the foot of the stairs are still in the walls. Half-way up the stair are the jambs and part of the arch of a moulded 14th-century doorway, which was probably recessed somewhat from the external wall face. The steps continue to road-level beneath the pavement. On the road side of the vault are three sloping shafts, 1 ft. 9 in. wide and about 4 ft. high, cut through the wall, with ashlar sides, sloping floor, and above a sloping vault of two stones pitched like a roof. Whether these shafts were for light, ventilation, or as a runway for small parcels of goods it is not possible to determine. Some 6 ft. of the eastern part of the vault has been rebuilt in brick. The undercroft extends another 19 ft. eastwards to a stone wall running north and south and projecting 14 ft. north of the vault, probably originally a second cellar. During the 18th century the building was the Star Inn, the principal inn of the town, and it was during this period that the great Jacobean staircase from Slaugham Place was brought here and built in.⁴⁸ When the inn was converted to its municipal purpose it was largely rebuilt above ground and the stair was altered to a twin flight to the first landing and was made out with some modern work in replica. It is a fine example of Jacobean workmanship, having square newels with pedestal finials, all with enriched panels carved on the solid. The subjects of the carving include the five continents, five senses, musical instruments, rose and thistle, &c. The balustrade is arcaded with rich pilasters beneath an elaborate moulded handrail and the string is carved with a continuous strapwork design.

The Council Chamber is panelled with Elizabethan oak panelling preserved from the old building. It has a series of pilasters and is now painted. Among the municipal plate is a silver-gilt steeple cup bequeathed by Thomas Blunt to the town in 1611.⁴⁹ The rest of the plate dates from after 1800, including the mace and the mayoral chain. There are two Constables' staves of office (1629), another of 1760, two head-boroughs' staves, and the brass badge of the town crier (1708). The arms of George III (1773) are preserved from the Old Town Hall.

Eastward of the Town Hall, at the top of School Hill, stands the War Memorial (a group of sculpture by the March brothers in memory of those who fell in the European War, 1914-18), on the site of St. Nicholas Church. This, before its removal in 1792, had ceased to function as a parish church for some centuries.⁵⁰ In its tower was hung the town bell known as Gabriel which now hangs in the market tower in Market Street, which turns northwards from High Street at this point. The tower, which is of red brick, was built in 1792 and has on its east wall a well-modelled cartouche with the town arms in relief thereon, and swags on either side. This work is in terracotta (painted), probably from the 18th-century works of Jonathan Harman of Heathfield, but the design has a 17th-century character and may have been cast from the mould of an earlier shield. The bell is inscribed 'Gabrielis menti dedens habio nomen' and also 'Johannes tonne me fecit'. It has a large shield with the royal arms, a figure of St. Catherine, a medalion of Henry VIII, a crown, and a Tudor rose.⁵¹ It also has a later inscription cut upon it, with 1792, the date of the removal.

Market Street leads to North Street, where is the old Naval Prison, built in 1793 as the town jail and now used as a Territorial head-quarters. In the chapel is a fine achievement in carved wood of the arms of William III, as used in Scotland (with the Scottish lion in the first and fourth quarters, and the lion and unicorn supporters interchanged), which used to stand over the entrance to the prison.

The houses on the end of the High Street turning into Market Street include Old Bank House and the Crown Hotel (formerly the Black Lion) both with good Georgian fronts. Nos. 199 and 200 are a pair of four-story houses with curved bay windows, and twin front doors under an elliptical overdoor, built in 1790. No. 203 is dated 1735 on the rainwater heads, with the initials I.S.M. (Dr. John Snashall and his wife Mary), and has a good entrance door, panelled front room, and stair of the period. Albion Street is on the site of the Turk's Head, a successor of the town house of the Dobell family, the property being part of the manor of Houndean.⁵² Nos. 211, 212, and 213 are good Georgian houses, the last-named having some Elizabethan carved stones built into its front wall. No. 214 is on the site of Holy Trinity Church, which adjoined the East Gate.⁵³ Between the site of the East Gate and the bridge over the river are several 18th-century houses, the chief being Nos. 220 and 221, originally one building. It is faced with Caen stone, evidently taken from Lewes Priory, and has two large curved bay windows towards the street. The parapet is carried up in a central pediment in which is

⁴⁷ Occurs in 1369: Add. Ch. 30553.

⁴⁸ For a drawing of the staircase see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* x, 163.

⁴⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxi, 107.

⁵⁰ It had been converted into a tenement before 1592: *ibid.* xiii, 47.

⁵¹ *Ibid.* xvi, 153; lvii, 51.

⁵² *Ibid.* xiii, 38.

⁵³ *Ibid.* lxxviii, 175.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

a sundial bearing the motto of the Isted family nosce TE IPSUM.

The history of Lewes⁵⁴ in early times *HISTORY* is very obscure; there does not appear to have been any settlement on the site of the later town in prehistoric times, and there is no evidence of occupation by the Romans,⁵⁵ despite the proved proximity of Roman roads⁵⁶ and the general suitability of the site for defence against Saxon raids.⁵⁷ There are several Saxon burial-grounds in the neighbourhood,⁵⁸ and the earthwork of St. John's churchyard may have been the site of the earliest settlement.⁵⁹ The earliest reference to Lewes is in the Burghal Hidage, a document perhaps of the early 10th century or even earlier,⁶⁰ where a district of 1,300 hides is attached to Lewes;⁶¹ this is a smaller area than those centring on Hastings or Chichester, but the borough of Lewes became pre-eminent in Sussex, for in the laws of Athelstan (925-35) it had a mint with two moneys, whereas Chichester and Hastings had each only one;⁶² and Athelstan himself appears to have on at least one occasion assembled his witan at, or close to, Lewes.⁶³ In the reign of Edward the Confessor it emerges as the virtual capital of East Sussex and as a market centre.⁶⁴

In Domesday Book Lewes is the first item under 'The Land of William de Warenne'; it was apparently, like Chichester, extra-hundredal, and it is called a borough. That it was a port and market town of some importance is shown by the customary payments to the reeve on the sale of horse, ox, or man, and the service of *schyppfyrd* due to the king.⁶⁵ In the time of King Edward there were 127 demesne burgesses; the number at the time of the Survey is not stated, but there were then about 258 'haws' or burgate tenements attached to manors within the rape,⁶⁶ and the population has been estimated at some 1,500 persons.⁶⁷ By 1086 the total fixed rents and issues had risen from £26 to £34 (as compared with £35 received from Chichester);⁶⁸ half went to the king and half to William de Warenne,⁶⁹ but there is no later evidence of the king's financial interest in the borough. These total issues included, in the time of King Edward, a sum of £6 4s. 1½d. from *gablum*, or burgate rents, and market

dues, but there is no statement as to the source of the balance.⁷⁰

Of the 258 haws or burgesses in Lewes associated with 35 outlying manors, 207 were attached to lands held by William de Warenne himself, or by his mesne tenants, the remaining 51 to lands held from other tenants-in-chief. Thus the Archbishop of Canterbury held 7 haws in Lewes belonging to the manor of Stanmer, and 21 haws belonging to South Malling; the Bishop of Chichester had 3 burgesses appurtenant to Henfield and 3 to Preston; the abbey of Hyde had 10 burgesses appurtenant to Southease, and Battle Abbey 7 burgesses belonging to Alcliston, but probably associated with Ovingdean.⁷¹ The rents paid from the haws varied from 2d. (paid to Perching) to 5s. (paid to 'Laneswice'), but 6d. was the most usual payment from each haw. The number of haws bore no relation to the area or assessment of the manors.

It is probable that, as at Chichester,⁷² many of these haws soon lost their connexion with the outlying manors, though in some cases the connexion was undoubtedly maintained till quite recent times.⁷³ It is curious how large a part of Lewes was still held of outlying manors till recently,⁷⁴ and still more curious how few of these *enclaves* can be traced back to Domesday. Land in the parish of All Saints, Lewes, was attached to the Bishop of Chichester's manor of Bishopstone in the rape of Pevensey, though it does not so appear in Domesday. A free court was held for the bishop's tenants in Lewes in the parish of All Saints, every three weeks in the 14th century,⁷⁵ and a custumal of the same period names nine tenants of Bishopstone holding plots in Lewes.⁷⁶ This property lay, in whole or in part, between Walwers Lane and Church Lane in the parish of All Saints,⁷⁷ including School Hill House; it is possible that the haws attached to the bishop's manors of Henfield and Preston had been transferred to Bishopstone.

Hurstpierpoint, to which no haws are assigned in Domesday, had lands between Church Lane (Pinwell Street) and Broomans Lane.⁷⁸ The manor of Portslade had five freeholds in 1631, on the western side of Keere Street.⁷⁹ Another freehold tenement is alleged to have

⁵⁴ This account of Lewes owes much to the help of Mr. W. H. Godfrey, who kindly put at my disposal his notes on many Additional Charters, and his daughter's transcripts of the Lewes Court Books in the possession of Messrs. Hunt, Nicholson, Adams & Co. (cited here as Court Books, Lewes), and of the greater part of the earliest surviving Lewes Town-book. Mr. Salzman kindly supplied notes on the rolls of the barony court and borough court from the Norfolk MSS. In addition I must thank the officials of the Sussex Archaeological Society (and especially Miss C. M. Lucas), and Mr. C. W. Stephenson, the Town Clerk of Lewes, and his staff, for their unfailing kindness in helping my search among the documents in their custody. Professor Tait, in his conversation and his letters, as in his published writings, has given much help and constructive criticism. Messrs. Williams and James have been most helpful in answering questions about the lords of Lewes.

⁵⁵ *V.C.H. Sussex*, iii, 60.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* iii, 47, 60, 69; *Arch. Journ.* lxxiv, 48; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxiv.

⁵⁷ Godfrey, *Lewes (Official Guide)*, 2.

⁵⁸ *V.C.H. Sussex*, i, 332-3, 339; Hodgkin, *History of the Anglo-Saxons*, i, map, to face p. 103.

⁵⁹ *Arch. Journ.* lxxiv, 46-7.

⁶⁰ Various views on the dating of this document are summarized in Tait, *The Medieval English Borough*, 16-18.

⁶¹ Chadwick, *Anglo-Saxon Institutions*, 205-7.

⁶² Liebermann, *Die Gesetze der Angelsachsen*, i, 158-9. See below, p. 32.

⁶³ Birch, *Cartul. Saxon.* 1064: 'æt Ham wíth Laewe'—perhaps Hamsey.

⁶⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxii, 28.

⁶⁵ *V.C.H. Sussex*, i, 435, cf. *ibid.* 382: Ballard, *Domesday Boroughs*, 73. Some scepticism as to the urban character of Lewes is shown by Carl Stephenson, *Borough and Town*, 109.

⁶⁶ *V.C.H. Sussex*, i, 384, excluding the 39 houses in Pevensey rape (*ibid.* 435). Lewes had more such 'haws' than any town in the Survey except Canterbury: Ballard, *Domesday Bor.* 39.

⁶⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxii, 173.

⁶⁸ *V.C.H. Sussex*, i, 421.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* i, 382.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.* Cf. Ballard, *Domesday Bor.* 90.

⁷¹ *V.C.H. Sussex*, i, 394 n. 2. There is a map of the manors having haws in Lewes in Ballard, *Domesday Bor.* (to face p. 14): for a criticism of Ballard's interpretation of this evidence see C. Stephenson, *Borough and Town*, 85.

⁷² *V.C.H. Sussex*, iii, 84.

⁷³ A message in Lewes held by the Templars in 1307 (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 240) may represent the Domesday haw of their manor of Saddlescombe, but is not traceable later. Waringore (3 haws D.B.) had property in St. John's-sub-Castro in 1783 (*ibid.* lxxvi, 116). The manor of Plumpton still has property on the south side of the High Street (see above, p. 11).

⁷⁴ Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 37.

⁷⁵ *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 83.

⁷⁶ *Suss. Customals* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxi), 87. 'The houses and lands in Lewes', held of Bishopstone, are mentioned in 1620: *Suss. Arch. Soc. Deeds*, A. 106.

⁷⁷ *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 243-4.

⁷⁸ For the history of this *enclave*, see *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 244; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 378. Cf. *Cat. Anct. D.* iii, A 4172, 4183, 4186, 4190. In 1903 a block of land between Lewes House and Friars Walk was still freehold of the manor, and included the burial-ground of the Society of Friends (*ex. inf.* the late Reginald Blaker).
⁷⁹ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv), 207-8. Cf. *V.C.H. Sussex*, i, 437, n. 4, where it is suggested that these houses may be the site of the haws of 'Herbertinges'.

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been held of Kingston-by-Lewes, in the parish of St. Michael; a tenement called Garretts, on the east side of St. Mary's Lane, of Hamsey;⁸⁰ and numerous freehold properties in Lewes, especially in the parish of St. John-under-the-Castle, of the manor of Southover,⁸¹ and others of Houndean.⁸²

From the days of the grant of his Sussex lands to the first Earl Warenne, the lords of Lewes barony (q.v.) were likewise the lords of the borough. The Norman and Angevin period should have been a time of prosperity for Lewes, for the powerful overlords were frequently resident in their castle, and the great Cluniac priory of their foundation⁸³ brought both visitors and trade, and yet for the greater part of the Middle Ages the history and status of Lewes are wrapped in obscurity. Although Lewes is latterly described more frequently as a *villa* than as a *burgus* there was no real loss of status; for it was a parliamentary borough from 1295,⁸⁴ and was assessed for taxation at the borough rate and under that description in the 14th century.⁸⁵

Apart from the major disturbance of the Barons' Wars,⁸⁶ and 'that detestable battle of Lewes',⁸⁷ the history of Lewes in the 13th and 14th centuries is devoid of striking incident. Frequent royal visits⁸⁸ no doubt left their mark on the life of the town. Of equal interest locally were the more domestic happenings, for example, the visit, the severity, and the miracles of St. Richard of Chichester,⁸⁹ a brawl between the bailiff and the prior's men in a Lewes tavern,⁹⁰ intermittent struggles between earl and priory, which might threaten the peace with display of force,⁹¹ thefts of the priory goods,⁹² or the prohibition of tournaments.⁹³

A house of Grey Friars had been founded here by 1241,⁹⁴ and there was a school in Lewes as early as 1248, which it is possible Archbishop Peckham later attended.⁹⁵ In this period Lewes had considerable

claims to be considered the county town; the county court was frequently held there despite the rival claims of Chichester;⁹⁶ the dispute between them was only finally settled by Henry VII in 1504 when he ordered that the court should be held alternately at Chichester and Lewes;⁹⁷ justices frequently sat there to hold the assizes,⁹⁸ and later, commissions of *oyer and terminer*⁹⁹ and sessions of the peace.¹

Some indication of the status of Lewes may be obtained from the sums it produced in taxation. In the time of Edward I, a tax of a twentieth produced £6 12s. 8½d.;² in 1334, the tenth produced a mere £4 1s.; less, that is to say, than Chichester, Shoreham, Arundel, Midhurst, or Stenyng.³ Thus Lewes at the time was no competitor with Chichester in wealth, whatever its claims in age or dignity. In the war tax of 1340 it had a very similar position in relation to the other boroughs;⁴ in that year 27 Lewes men paid tax, as against 36 at Shoreham, and many more at Chichester.⁵

Hostilities with France had inevitable repercussions upon Lewes life at this period, for the 'alien priory' of Lewes, dangerously near the coast, was constantly subjected to royal or comital control; even the charter of denization granted in 1351⁶ did not end such control.⁷ In 1360, licence was given to crenellate the priory.⁸ The life of the priory must have been a predominant factor in the lives of Lewes citizens—its 'lamentable condition' in the 13th century, no less than its improved tone in the 14th.⁹ The church, as always, in medieval England, lent the colour of its pageantry to cheer the citizens. St. Pancras Day (12 May)¹⁰ and Whitweek especially were celebrated at Lewes.¹¹

In 1379 the French sailed up the Ouse within sight of Lewes, and they also landed at Rottingdean, where they were attacked by the local levies under the Prior

⁸⁰ On one part the Wesleyan chapel now stands, on the other a shop occupied in 1903 by T. E. Gearing.

⁸¹ *Ex. inf.* the late Reginald Blaker.

⁸² *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 5-7.

⁸³ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 64, for an account of the priory.

⁸⁴ *Parl. Writs*, i, 43.

⁸⁵ e.g. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* i, 163.

⁸⁶ See *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 496-500, for an account of the battle of Lewes.

⁸⁷ *Cal. Pat.* 1258-66, p. 342.

⁸⁸ Stephen possibly visited Lewes in 1148 (*Lewes Chart.* i, 110); John in Feb. 1205 (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* ii, 133), in May 1209 (*ibid.* 135); April 1213 (*ibid.*); Henry III in 1217 (*Cal. Pat.* 1216-25, pp. 34, 87), on 23-5 July 1240 (*Cal. Close*, 1237-42, pp. 208, 209), and in May 1264, at the time of the battle of Lewes. Letters of Edward I, which probably prove his personal presence, were issued at Lewes from 24 June (*Cal. Pat.* 1272-81, p. 149) to 26 June 1276 (*ibid.* 150, 178), on 28 and 29 May 1297 (*ibid.* 1292-1301, p. 250), and on 24 and 25 June 1299 (*ibid.* 423). A presentation to the king was made by the prior on 24 June, and the lord Edward his son perhaps remained behind there (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* ii, 149-50). Letters were again issued by Edward I from Lewes on 13 Sept. 1302 (*Cal. Pat.* 1301-7, pp. 62, 91), from 23-7 June 1305 (*Cal. Close*, 1302-7, pp. 276, 340), when Edward of Carnarvon was also again present (*Letters of Edward Prince of Wales*, 1304-5, p. 38, Roxburghe Club). Edward II issued letters there on 1 and 2 July 1324 (*Cal. Pat.* 1321-4, pp. 437-9),

and on 4 July (*Cal. Close*, 1323-7, p. 118). The letters issued there in 1364 (*Cal. Pat.* 1364-7, p. 25), 1417 (*ibid.* 1416-22, p. 138), 1488 (*ibid.* 1485-94, pp. 239, 250), 1496 (*ibid.* 1494-1509, pp. 71, 76, 86), and 1507 (*ibid.* 527) cannot be taken to imply royal visits.

⁸⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxvi, 71-3.

⁹⁰ *Ibid.* lxi, 88 (1278).

⁹¹ *Cal. Close*, 1313-18, p. 101 (1314).

⁹² *Cal. Pat.* 1272-81, p. 267; *ibid.* 1292-1301, p. 465.

⁹³ *Ibid.* 1307-13, 478.

⁹⁴ In Oct. 1241 the king gave the Friars Minor of Lewes 10 marks for clothing (*Cal. Lib.* 1240-5, p. 85), and made them other gifts in 1242 (*Close Roll*, 1237-42, pp. 426-7), and 1247 (*Cal. Lib.* 1245-51, 138). Their building was evidently not complete in 1244 (*Close Roll*, 1242-7, p. 207). For an account of the Lewes Franciscans see *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 95; this, however, records nothing before 1249.

⁹⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 411-12.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.* iii, 95-6. It was decided in 1254 that the county court was in future to be held at Chichester (*Close Roll*, 1253-4, p. 18), but subsequent county courts were held at both Lewes and Horsham, for instance in 1332 (*Coram Rege*, roll 289, m. 19) and 1343 (*V.C.H. Suss.* iii, 86), despite a reiterated decision in favour of Chichester in 1337 (*Cal. Pat.* 1334-8, pp. 289, 318). Because of a dispute with the city of Chichester the sheriff 'dare not resort thither' in 1377, and he was therefore authorized to hold the county court at Lewes (*Cal. Close*, 1377-81, p. 71); the order was rescinded a few days later

(*ibid.* 67).

⁹⁷ *Stat. Realm.* (Rec. Com.) ii, 665.

⁹⁸ e.g. in 1214 (*Cur. Reg. R.* vii, 263-4), 1220 (*Pat. R.* 1216-25, p. 263); 1229 (*Close Roll*, 1227-31, p. 379), 1230 (*Cal. Pat.* 1225-32, p. 357), &c. Cf. 1402 (*Cal. Pat.* 1401-5, pp. 94-5). A final concord was made 'in the court of the lord king at Lewes' as early as 1194: *MSS. Lord de Lisle and Dudley* (Hist. MSS. Comm.), 45.

⁹⁹ *Cal. Pat.* 1476-85, p. 191 (1480).

¹ e.g. in 1455 (*Cal. Pat.* 1452-61, p. 240) and 1488 (*ibid.* 1485-94, pp. 275-6).

² *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.) ii, 209.

³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* i, 163. The same sum was due in 1565: Town-book, 1542-1740, fol. 12 v.

⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxviii, 212 n. 3.

⁵ *Ibid.* 220-1.

⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 68.

⁷ For example, the priory was again in the king's hands in 1370: *Cal. Pat.* 1367-70, p. 465.

⁸ *Ibid.* 1358-61, p. 444.

⁹ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 66-7.

¹⁰ This is exemplified, for instance, by the service of John de Benefield, who on St. Pancras Day 'ought to come to Lewes with twelve others on horseback and spend the day at the cost of the prior, who shall give him on leaving a cheese price 15d.': *Cal. Inq. p.m.* vi, no. 570.

¹¹ In the early 15th century the benefited clergy from the archdeaconry of Lewes visited 'the church of Lewes', with banners and processions: *Rede's Reg.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xi), 372.

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of Lewes, who was taken prisoner.¹² The lack of patriotism then shown by the Earl of Arundel, who left his castle of Lewes undefended, may help to account for the outbreak against the earl at the time of the Peasants' Revolt, when the castle was attacked and damaged.¹³ The men of Lewes were especially conspicuous in Jack Cade's rebellion of 1450,¹⁴ pardons being issued for many inhabitants of the parish of All Saints, men from the Cliffe, Westout, and Southover (including the constable of Southover), the prior and convent of Lewes and their men, the burgesses of Lewes, and even the two constables.¹⁵ The status of the Lewes participants is characteristic of that revolt.

Perhaps the most important local happening in the Tudor period was the foundation in 1512 of a new school, the Lewes Free Grammar School, at Southover, by the will of Agnes Morley; its story has already been told.¹⁶ The school was fortunate in surviving the dangers of the Reformation, which brought about the surrender of the priory in November 1537,¹⁷ whereby the greatest church in Sussex was converted into a quarry for all the builders in the neighbourhood.¹⁸ The surrender of the poverty-stricken house of Grey Friars followed a year later.¹⁹ Other religious changes were less significant. The hospitals of St. James in Southover and St. Nicholas in Westout lost their main supporters with the disappearance of the priory, and gradually ceased to function, though the latter continued its work irregularly as an almshouse.²⁰ And Sherman's Chantry, in the parish of St. Peter, was confiscated in 1547.²¹

The priory and its estates were granted to Thomas Cromwell, whose accounts contain many entries of expenses in connexion with his Lewes property in 1538, or with arrangements for pulling down the priory.²² There is nothing to show that he himself ever visited Lewes, but his son Gregory and his wife converted part of the priory into a residence and were there in May 1538, but moved into the country through fear of the plague.²³ In June there was even a rumour that the King would visit 'your lordship's house at Lewes', and the lodgings were viewed to that end, but there were still cases of plague in Lewes, and perhaps for that reason no more is heard of the visit.²⁴ In 1539 Cromwell's household there was dissolved.²⁵

This outbreak of plague in the spring of 1538, perhaps centred in St. Michael's parish.²⁶ Cromwell brought pressure to bear on the 'honest men' of the

parish of St. Anne to allow those who died from plague to be buried in their churchyard; 'after consultation together for half a day and a night' they still demurred, for their parish was free of infection; yet finally they were persuaded to agree.²⁷ One other parish (not mentioned by name) was also infected.²⁸ On 24 May no one had died for eight days and no one in the town was then ill. Yet in the next month there were still other cases; another death, in an inn, was reported.²⁹

In the Tudor period Lewes maintained its contested claim to be the chief town of Sussex. It now housed the county gaol,³⁰ and the county court was held alternately at Lewes and Chichester.³¹ By a similar compromise the quarter-sessions for the western half of the county were held at Chichester and those for the east usually, though not always,³² in Lewes.³³ The assizes were also still held here upon occasion;³⁴ in 1565, the borough expended 13s. 4d. on 'making a place for the justices of assize to sit',³⁵ and the expense of their entertainment might be a heavy item.³⁶ In the same year a new 'sessions house' was built by the borough,³⁷ and was used both as a town hall and as a meeting-place for county officers. The place of Lewes in the general political or military history of the 16th century was insignificant; it was a natural meeting place, for example, for justices discussing the organization of Sussex beacons,³⁸ and it was several times used as a distributing centre for gunpowder and shot,³⁹ 'sent thither for the defence of the most dangerous partes of this coast'.⁴⁰ It was thus easy for the defeat of the Armada to be celebrated by 'shooting off the great pieces in the Castle'.⁴¹

Elizabethan Lewes is known to us largely through the labours of that arduous Sussex antiquary and practising lawyer John Rowe, who was a resident and a benefactor of the town. At one time constable of Lewes (1598), and for 25 years steward of Lord Abergavenny,⁴² he based his researches not only on the town-book⁴³ but on gleanings from court-rolls, many of which no longer survive.⁴⁴ His work is chiefly of value in the picture of the government and constitution of the town.

Taking a long view, John Rowe was, perhaps, the most important of Lewes residents in the late 16th and early 17th century. The families of men like Herbert Springett of Lewes, from whom the Springetts of Ringmer descended, kept up the family connexion, and left benefactions to the town;⁴⁵ John Kyme, at one time a Member of Parliament for Lewes, who lived

¹² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 510; ii, 68.

¹³ *Ibid.* i, 511-12.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 513-15.

¹⁵ *Cal. Pat.* 1446-52, pp. 346, 350, 354, 368, 372. Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xviii, 25-30.

¹⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 411-15.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* 69; cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxvi, 178 *et seq.*

¹⁸ Building may have been stimulated by the Act of 1541-2 (*Stat. Realm*, iii, 875), by which decayed houses were to be rebuilt in various boroughs including Lewes.

¹⁹ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 96.

²⁰ *Ibid.* 103-4. The last remains of its buildings have recently been removed. In 1550 there were still 26 persons receiving 13s. 4d. each yearly in, or in connexion with, the hospital of Southover: Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.) Edw. VI, no. 453.

²¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxiii, 206.

²² *L. & P. Hen. VIII*, xii (2), 1151; *ibid.* xiv (2), p. 333.

²³ *Ibid.* xiii (1), 1059.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 1281.

²⁵ *Ibid.* 421; *ibid.* xiv (1), 1049.

²⁶ St. Anne's parish was described as 'adjoining the parish which has been infected with the great plague': *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), 1059.

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ *Ibid.* 1281 (29 June 1538). A certificate was then made out 'of all who have died since Christmas'.

²⁹ See p. 20.

³⁰ See p. 15.

³¹ In July 1562 they were held at East Grinstead: Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 208.

³² *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1581-90, p. 294 (1585). Separate sessions for each rape were held before 1584: *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 521.

³³ Records of the quarter-sessions survive from the reign of Elizabeth in the possession of the East Sussex County Council. Quarter-sessions are still held in Lewes. It is curious that even in 1811, when Brighton had a population of over 12,000, the nearest justices of the peace were at Lewes, nine miles away: Webb, *Par. and Co.* 55 n. 3.

³⁴ But of 23 assizes noted between 1692 and 1823, 7 were held at Lewes, 11 at East Grinstead, and 5 at Horsham: *Suss. Co. Mag.* ix, 696.

³⁵ Town-book, 1542-1740, fol. 12 v.

³⁶ As much as £15 8s. (*ibid.* 162).

³⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 125.

³⁸ e.g. in 1546 (*Suss. N. & Q.* i, 82-3).

³⁹ e.g. in 1548 (Town-book, fol. 2 v) and 1587 (*ibid.* p. 27); cf. *Hist. MSS. Comm. Rep.* xv, App. v, p. 17 (1588).

⁴⁰ Town-book, 1541-1740 (loose leaf inserted between fol. 34 & 35), 1597.

⁴¹ Dunvan, *Lewes*, 233.

⁴² See *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxiv for an account of Rowe and his family: also the introduction to *The Book of J. Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiv). Rowe died in 1639, and his writings are wrongly dated 1662 in Horsfield's *Lewes*, i, 177, and in Webb, *Manor and Borough*, i, 17.

⁴³ The earliest surviving town-book covers the period 1542-1740.

⁴⁴ See p. 29 n. 59.

⁴⁵ *Infra*; cf. Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 314.

at the Friars, was similarly a benefactor,⁴⁶ as was Thomas Blunt, whose silver cup, given in 1611, is now the oldest piece of the corporation plate. Thomas Twyne, doctor and writer, though not a Sussex man, practised at Lewes at the turn of the century, and brought to it a certain distinction. His son Brian, who was born at Lewes, spent some time in Lewes later, when he was vicar of Rye; he became in due course one of the earliest of Oxford antiquaries.⁴⁷ Nicholas Yonge, the musician, was born at Lewes but migrated to London. Such men have all received adequate recognition elsewhere.⁴⁸

The enthusiasm for Protestantism, fanned by the Marian persecutions, during which 17 persons were burned for heresy at Lewes,⁴⁹ though none of them was an inhabitant of the town, was strong in Lewes throughout the 17th century. In 1603 there were no recusants in the parishes of St. John-under-the-Castle or St. Mary's Westout, and there were about 200 communicants in each parish.⁵⁰ Yet we have no record of any especial interest in the news of the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot, and there would appear to be no firm historical foundations for the so-called anti-Catholic tradition which made 'the Bonfire Boys' notorious in the 19th century⁵¹ and still causes 'the Fifth' to be celebrated with exceptional pageantry. By 1640 Puritan influences were very strong in the eastern parts of the county⁵² and it was feared that the town of Lewes and the sessions-house were so tainted that Puritans would be returned to parliament;⁵³ with the return of Colonel Herbert Morley and Colonel Anthony Stapley as members in the Long Parliament, the political sympathies of Lewes in the forthcoming struggle were finally determined.

Lewes did not play a conspicuous part in the Civil Wars; the committee of Lewes was busy, but its work does not seem to have been of any special importance. Arrangements for the defence of Lewes, both in money and men, were made in 1642; 200 or more volunteers were to be called in to the town;⁵⁴ 32 soldiers' coats, and 34 muskets and fowling pieces appear in the borough records for 1643-4.⁵⁵ Towards the end of 1642 Lewes was threatened, for after the sheriff's victory for the king at Chichester he set out with the Earl of Thanet to attack Lewes, but was routed at Hayward's Heath;⁵⁶ danger was again apprehended in August⁵⁷ and November 1643. After the fall of Arundel to Waller in January 1644, the town of Lewes sent

the victor £50 in gratitude.⁵⁸ For the next few years there is nothing to record.

Both Lewes and Chichester were head-quarters of the Sussex committee for a time,⁵⁹ yet Lewes, continually in parliamentary hands, seems to have retained that position longer;⁶⁰ it had a branch of the committee of Plundered Ministers, set up by the Long Parliament—as had Chichester⁶¹—and of the commissioners for assessments in 1651,⁶² and so on. The 'grand committee of the county' sat there in 1652.⁶³ Major-General Goffe, in control of Sussex, Hampshire, and Berkshire, found Lewes well disposed to the Protector in 1655,⁶⁴ and relied upon the support there of John and Anthony Stapley;⁶⁵ but in 1657 the Stapleys were involved in royalist plots;⁶⁶ the plans included the surprising of Lewes and Chichester.⁶⁷ On the death of Cromwell precautions were taken against a royalist revolt in Sussex, and troops were raised at Lewes.⁶⁸ Lewes, like other Sussex ports, was used in this period by refugees to the continent, including Richard Cromwell. He was followed later by Edmund Ludlow, who stuck on a sandbank in stormy weather, but yet escaped discovery.⁶⁹

After the Restoration Puritanism remained strong in East Sussex. Two incumbents, the Rev. Edward Newton of St. Anne's, and the Rev. Walter Postlethwaite of St. Michael's, 'the fathers of Lewes Nonconformity'⁷⁰ resigned on the passing of the Act of Uniformity;⁷¹ in 1663 Lewes was still 'perverse' to the king's government;⁷² the names of convicted persons might have been 'five times as many' and the conventicles were still much frequented.⁷³ There was trouble over the burial of a deceased Puritan, and his friends became 'insolent'; twenty shops were kept open in contempt on Christmas Day.⁷⁴ The difficulties met in the enforcement of the Act of Uniformity and the Conventicles Act in Lewes have been recorded in detail elsewhere;⁷⁵ there was one conventicle (Independent) in Lewes itself in 1669⁷⁶ and two Independent conventicles were licensed after the Declaration of Indulgence.⁷⁷ In 1676 there were 687 persons who conformed, as against 173 non-conformists.⁷⁸ The strength of Puritanism certainly caused disquiet to the government;⁷⁹ thus it was reported to the Bishop of Chichester, early in September 1683 that 'this part of your diocese, as it is far remote from your palace, so is filled with a sort of men who are further remote from loyal principles than perhaps any other diocese';⁸⁰ the bishop in turn complained that he

⁴⁶ Ibid., q.v. for a complete list of benefactions in this period. Cf. *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 155-84.

⁴⁷ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 197, 229; iii, 40, 82, 250.

⁴⁸ e.g. Godfrey, *Lewes*, 9; M. A. Lower, *Worthies of Sussex*; Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 318-22; Holman, *Lewes Men of Note*.

⁴⁹ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 22.

⁵⁰ *Misc. Rec. (Suss. Rec. Soc. iv)*, 12.

⁵¹ *Suss. County Mag.* ii, 486-95.

⁵² *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 35.

⁵³ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1639, pp. 386-7.

⁵⁴ Thomas-Stanford, *Sussex in the Great Civil War and Interregnum*, 41. Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* v, 60.

⁵⁵ Town-book, i, fol. 75.

⁵⁶ Thomas-Stanford, op. cit. 48.

⁵⁷ Thus a letter from Lewes says 'we are very sensible of our more than approaching danger . . . but . . . conscious of our own inability to stand of ourselves'; assistance from London and adjacent counties is therefore requested 'for our mutual

defence': *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xiii, App. 1, 126.

⁵⁸ Thomas-Stanford, op. cit. 74.

⁵⁹ e.g. *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1645-7, p. 146.

⁶⁰ Ibid. 37; *ibid.* 1644-5, p. 412; *ibid.*

1649-50, p. 274; *Hist. MSS. Com.* xiii, app. 4, p. 213, &c. Cf. *Cal. of Comm. for Compounding*, i, 68, 181, &c.

⁶¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxx, 112.

⁶² *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1651, p. 282.

⁶³ *Cal. of Comm. for Compounding*, i, 562.

⁶⁴ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1658-9, p. 148.

⁶⁵ Thomas-Stanford, op. cit. 284-5.

One of his commissioners was Nathaniel Studeley of Lewes; *ibid.* 298.

⁶⁶ Thomas-Stanford, op. cit. 296.

⁶⁷ Firth, *Last Years of the Protectorate*, ii, 60.

⁶⁸ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 528. Cf. *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1559-60, pp. 52, 107, 111, 188.

⁶⁹ Thomas-Stanford, op. cit. 321-2.

⁷⁰ J. M. Connell, *The Story of an Old Meeting House*, 3.

⁷¹ J. M. Connell, *Lewes, its Religious History*, 109.

⁷² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 528.

⁷³ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1663-4, p. 293.

⁷⁴ Ibid. 395.

⁷⁵ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 204-6, and app. ii, a pamphlet of 1670. Cf. J. M. Connell, *Relig. Hist.* 110-13.

⁷⁶ Ibid. 110.

⁷⁷ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1671-2, p. 409. Cf. Connell, *Meeting House*, 17-18; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* li, 10-11.

⁷⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlv, 144.

⁷⁹ e.g. *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1680-1, pp. 472-3; *ibid.* July-Sept. 1683, p. 50, which records a search for arms amongst disaffected persons. In Oct. 1683, 7 muskets and 2 swords, 'taken from some inhabitants of Lewes', were brought into the sessions-house: Town-book, i, fol. 115 v.

⁸⁰ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* July-Sept. 1683, pp. 362-3.

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'had no hopes to reform the contempts of the laws . . . so long as they are abetted by men in the commission of the peace. . .'. Mr. Henry Shelley of Lewes especially was blamed;⁸¹ he had indeed already been criticized for delays in proceeding against the Quakers.

Lewes in the 17th century must have been a pleasant place to live in, apart from the poorness of its communications. The road to Wootton, only 4 miles off, was a 'durty hard way to finde';⁸² in 1666 'the want of a post causes more lies daily than Mr. Muddiman writes truths in a month';⁸³ in 1672 'no post comes into this county but at the two ends, but Lewes in the middle has no conveyance except by carriers';⁸⁴ the carrier left the Talbot in Southwark at noon on Thursdays.⁸⁵ Lewes apparently became a post town shortly afterwards.⁸⁶ Despite its drawbacks, however, Lewes, in the time of Charles II, was 'esteemed the best borough town of the county'; it was 'a place of good antiquity, large, well-built, and well inhabited . . . beautified with divers handsome streets. . .'.⁸⁷ Defoe's comments some fifty years later were very similar; the especial merit of Lewes in his eyes was that both town and neighbourhood were 'full of the seats of gentlemen of good families and fortune'.⁸⁸ But few Lewes men in this period attained any considerable distinction. John Evelyn, the diarist, however, went to live with his grandfather there in 1625; he remembered years afterwards the solemnity of his grandfather's funeral at All Saints in 1627. Evelyn continued to live in Lewes with his grandfather's second wife; he laid one of the first stones in the new church of South Malling. In 1628 he began Latin with a Frenchman, one Citolin, who lived in Lewes; later he went to Mr. Potts's school in the Cliffe, and in 1630 to the free school at Southover. The family migrated to Southover on his grandmother's second marriage.⁸⁹ His subsequent relations with Lewes do not appear to have been very close.⁹⁰

The 18th century was a period of quiet prosperity in the history of Lewes, when the amenities of life increased and a placid contentment was little disturbed by external or internal events of magnitude. The political interests of the inhabitants found an outlet both now and later in the sending of addresses, whether of congratulation or of protest;⁹¹ they were shown in the coffee-houses of the town,⁹² or when Tom Paine the

excise-officer met his cronies at the White Hart, before ever he had dreamt of a political future beyond the Atlantic.⁹³ During this period smugglers were common enough in Lewes, as throughout Sussex.⁹⁴ Repercussions of the hostilities with France may be seen in the arrangements for the militia,⁹⁵ in a certain nervousness as to the possibilities of attack,⁹⁶ and in the welcome given to *émigrés* who came to Lewes.⁹⁷

The Jury, who were really responsible for the government of Lewes in the 18th century, were slack in many ways, but showed perhaps some traces of enlightened social service. Grappling-hooks and buckets had long been provided against fire,⁹⁸ but by 1726 Lewes had an engine, and soon two,⁹⁹ the result of gifts, and in 1784 a new engine with 40 ft. of leather hose was bought by subscription.¹ In 1791 an engine-house was put up to house this equipment.² That other scourge of the 18th century, small-pox, led in 1742 to a 'pest-house' being established for the use of the borough,³ though not before it was needed.⁴ In 1768 or 1769 the town crier 'cried the small-pox' and there were several cases⁵ in the next few years; the constables paid the expense of watching and nursing, and even for the shroud of a soldier's child who died there. As a result of a serious outbreak in St. Mary's Lane, it was agreed that a general inoculation would be a lesser evil than 'a general infection in the natural way'. From 14 to 20 January 1794 some 2,890 persons, 'according to the best accounts that the constables could procure', were inoculated, but of these 46 died as the results of the inoculation.⁷

In Lewes at this time many of the gentry, to mitigate the drawback of the county's bad communications, had town houses for the winter.⁸ It is these residents who must be thanked for the comfortable 18th-century houses which still give the town its air of dignity, and for its many pleasant walled gardens:⁹ there was 'such a rage for building in Lewes', that 'among all the brick kilns within two miles round' enough bricks could not be obtained to complete the new bell-tower.¹⁰ There were many amenities in the town: there were the first-rate hostelrys like the Star and the White Hart, to which the Crown and the Pelham Arms must now be added,¹¹ and the many other inns and ale-houses;¹² there were the coffee-houses; there were Lewes races, perhaps started in the reign of Queen Anne and

⁸¹ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* July–Sept. 1683, p. 380; *ibid.* 1682, 526, 599–600. See for Lewes nonconformity J. M. Connell, *op. cit.*; and for persecution of the Quakers *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 123.

⁸² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liii, 194.

⁸³ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1665–6, p. 493.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.* 1672, p. 451.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.* 1666–7, pp. 149, 572.

⁸⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxii, 224.

⁸⁷ *Ibid.* xix, 164.

⁸⁸ Defoe, *Tour through Gr. Britain* (1778), i, 164–5.

⁸⁹ *Diary and Correspondence of Jn. Evelyn* (ed. H. B. Wheatley, 1906), i, pp. xviii, 4–5.

⁹⁰ For his attempts to persuade Colonel Herbert Morley to bring about the Restoration see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxviii.

⁹¹ e.g. an address to George III in 1782: Town-book, 1740–1812, fol. 54; cf. Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 213; a protest on the Peterloo massacres of 1819: 'Diary of Gideon Mantell', *Suss. Co. Mag.* xii, 101.

⁹² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lviii, 93.

⁹³ 'Thomas Paine's Residence in Lewes', by J. M. Connell in *At the Sign of the*

Bull, Lewes, by W. H. Godfrey.

⁹⁴ See e.g. A. Beckett, *Spirit of the Downs*: a smuggler, riding furiously through Lewes when drunk, killed his horse by mounting the pavement (*Suss. Co. Mag.* x, 697). In 1731 dragoons were dispatched to Sussex 'against the smugglers at Lewes': *Cal. S. P. Treas. Books and Papers*, 1731–4, p. 124.

⁹⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 533–6.

⁹⁶ Some fear for shipping was shown, e.g. in 1759, when a French privateer attacked a barley vessel bound for Lewes (*Suss. Co. Mag.* viii, 125). In 1780 loud firing at sea caused consternation, but was found to be due to an engagement between a king's cutter and two smuggling cutters, the former being forced to withdraw; *ibid.* xi, 279.

⁹⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xl, 259.

⁹⁸ The Town-book shows 12 leather buckets, as well as fire-hooks, in 1577 (fol. 19 v.), 25 buckets in 1646 (fol. 77), and 30 in 1702 (fol. 136).

⁹⁹ Town-book, i, fol. 170, 181.

¹ *Ibid.* 1740–1812, fol. 58.

² *Ibid.* fol. 80.

³ *Ibid.* fol. 2 v, 3. Cf. Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 209.

⁴ A subscription 'for the small-pox' amounted to £6 4s. 9d. in 1739: Town-book, fol. 192. ⁵ Constables' Accounts.

⁶ Town-book, 1740–1812, fol. 31; Constables' Accounts for years 1768–76, and again from 1791 to 1792. The pest-house was abolished in 1792–3: *ibid.*

⁷ Town-book, 1740–1812, fol. 86–8. Dr. Thomas Frewen, a pioneer of inoculation, had practised in Lewes some years earlier: *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; Lower, *Worthies of Sussex*.

⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 42–4.

⁹ The parishes of Lewes were described in 1730 as 'chiefly composed of gentlemen's seats, joyning one to another, with their gardens adjoining': *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 41.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* xl, 257.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 254. ¹² *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 58–9. In Jan. 1745 twelve Lewes publicans complained of the length of time for which a company of soldiers, 'destined for guarding the coast', was quartered there: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lviii, 105.

flourishing early in the reign of George I,¹³ which formed the first regular Sussex race-meeting to be recorded,¹⁴ and which may have been kept up for a week,¹⁵ with a ball or some other festivity every night;¹⁶ there was a library of 523 volumes bequeathed to the borough by a clergyman in 1720, together with a small income to buy more books;¹⁷ there were the local newspapers, the *Sussex Advertiser*, or *Lewes Journal*, started in 1745;¹⁸ a 'neat, if not elegant', theatre was established in 1789;¹⁹ and there were two banks,²⁰ and a freemasons' hall.²¹

No doubt the growing popularity of Brighton added to the gaiety of life in Lewes; George, Prince of Wales, was a frequent visitor as early as 1792.²² Prince Ernest of Mecklenburg-Strelitz came in 1771 and 'liked the town so well, he said more than once he would like to live here';²³ the Duke of Cumberland, too, was among the visitors in that year.²⁴ Wilkes and his daughter came in 1770 and people crowded to see 'the great patriot'.²⁵

The political interests of Lewes citizens were shown in the early 19th century in a number of town meetings and resulting resolutions.²⁶ Gideon Mantell has described, too, the interest shown in the Peterloo massacres, and the decorum of the meetings to consider the resolutions, which he had helped to frame,²⁷ and also the sympathy shown for Queen Charlotte.²⁸ When the bill against the queen was thrown out in the Lords, Old Gabriel tolled, and there were illuminations and fireworks.²⁹ The public rejoicings on the victories of Trafalgar³⁰ and Waterloo,³¹ and on the accession of George IV,³² have also been described. Still more exciting in local annals was the visit of William IV and Queen Adelaide in October 1830, when Mantell's geological museum was to have been honoured by the royal visitors, but time did not permit.³³ When he was presented with a copy of *The History of Lewes*, the king merely muttered 'Take them—take them'.³⁴

The tranquillity of life in Lewes was little disturbed by the many developments of the 19th century elsewhere. The administration gradually adjusted itself to the needs of the time; a new county hall was built in 1812, and the act which authorized this building empowered the lords of the borough to use it for courts leet and baron, and the constables for elections and

public meetings.³⁵ The town was lit by gas in 1822;³⁶ pipes for the water-supply were laid by 1834;³⁷ the making of the railway was of a great interest locally, especially in view of what its excavation revealed on the priory site.³⁸ The old county jail was used to house a hundred Russian prisoners of the Crimean war,³⁹ and the officers on their release wrote a letter of thanks for their treatment to the senior constable.⁴⁰

This building became a naval prison. A number of details about this 'house of correction', which was completed in 1793, are available.⁴¹ The developments in Lewes government in the latter part of the century will be noticed later.

The lordship or barony and hence *THE CASTLE* rape of Lewes were both probably Norman and military in origin,⁴² and they must have centred from the beginning in the castle, raised by William de Warenne, first lord of Lewes,⁴³ soon after he received his Sussex lands. The castle is not mentioned under Lewes in the Domesday survey, but some of William de Warenne's Norfolk manors are described in Domesday Book as belonging to the *castellatio* or *castellum* of Lewes.⁴⁴

Until quite recent times the castle of Lewes followed the same line of descent as the barony and rape (q.v.). In the partition of 1439, each co-heir received one-third of the castle; Edmund Lenthall held the 'first third part', beginning in the exterior eastern part of the castle and extending towards the west, with free entrance and exit, the Duke of Norfolk a similar second part, Elizabeth, Lady Bergavenny, a similar third.⁴⁵ During the 17th century the site of the castle had been divided into a number of copyhold tenements. Of these the Barbican with the Norman Gateway, and the Keep were granted to Thomas Friend in 1733 and 1750 respectively. They passed under his will in 1762 to his nephew Thomas Friend, and in 1765 to John Kemp. Thomas Kemp succeeded in 1775 and Thomas Read Kemp in 1811. Between 1838 and 1851 John Hoper acquired these and other copyhold portions of the site and, 'with a view to secure the preservation of the Castle as a public ornament of the town', offered the property to the lords. Earl de la Warr and the Earl of Abergavenny accepted the proposal, but the Duke of Norfolk declined it and his

¹³ The plate race at Lewes is mentioned in May 1718 (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 183). In Aug. 1725 the Duke of Newcastle wrote: 'We are here at our horse-races, in humble imitation of what you are doing at York, but not so vain as to imagine we can ever come near the perfection you are at' (*Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xv, app. vi, 50). The Lewes race-meeting is still held in August.

¹⁴ *V.C.H. Sus.* i, 454; cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xx, 227.

¹⁵ Officially for only two days before 1765: *V.C.H. Sus.* i, 454.

¹⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxii, 170. Cf. *ibid.* viii, 261 (1751). References to Lewes races not noticed in *V.C.H. Sus.* i, 454-5, may be found in *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xv, app. vi, 186 (1737), and *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 192 (1757), 203 (1759), 210 (1762), 216 (1764).

¹⁷ Town-book, i, fol. 165. A catalogue of the volumes is given.

¹⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxiv, 139.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* xl, 256. A lithograph of the theatre is reproduced by Holman in *Lewes Men of Note*.

²⁰ *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 254-5. Cf. *Suss.*

Co. Mag. xii, 702.

²¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 280.

²² *Ibid.* xl, 252-3. Tradition asserts that he drove a coach-and-four down Keere Street.

²³ *Suss. Co. Mag.* ix, 482.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 721.

²⁵ *Ibid.* 360.

²⁶ Town-book, 1813-39, *passim*; cf. Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 226-9.

²⁷ *Suss. Co. Mag.* xii, 101.

²⁸ *Ibid.* 161; Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 229.

²⁹ *Suss. Co. Mag.* xii, 163 (Nov. 1820).

³⁰ *Ibid.* 632.

³¹ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 227.

³² *Suss. Co. Mag.* xii, 298.

³³ *Ibid.* xii, 462. Mantell wrote *A Narrative of the Visit of William IV and Queen Adelaide*.

³⁴ *Suss. Co. Mag.* xii, 462. Presumably Horsfield's history, in 2 volumes, which included an essay on the natural history of the district by Mantell, is referred to.

³⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 26. Cf. Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 224, where it is complained that no such stipulation was originally projected.

³⁶ *Suss. Co. Mag.* xii, 302.

³⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xii, 29.

³⁸ Thus Mantell, on a visit to Lewes from Brighton in Dec. 1844, went to see the railway cutting and the alleged bones of William de Warenne and Gundrada: *Suss. Co. Mag.* xii, 757.

³⁹ M. A. Lower, *Handbook for Lewes*.

⁴⁰ *Suss. Co. Mag.* i, 445.

⁴¹ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 218-19. A report on Lewes convict prison is referred to in *Index to Sess. Papers, H. Lds.* 1859-70.

⁴² *V.C.H. Sus.* i, 353-4; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxii, 20-9. Cf., however, *Eng. Hist. Rev.* xlv, 427-35, 'The Domesday Hidation of Sussex and the Rapes', by J. E. A. Jolliffe, where it is contended that the rapes are pre-conquest in date.

⁴³ *V.C.H. Sus.* i, 377.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* i, 385; cf. *ibid.* *Norf.* ii, 86. For a discussion of this phrase see *ibid.* 18.

⁴⁵ *The Bk. of J. Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv), 185, 188, 189. That such a partition was made points to the castle being at that date no longer seriously regarded as a fortress. It was at this time worth nothing beyond the cost of upkeep: *Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.)*, 1120, no. 2.

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place was taken by Mary, Countess Dowager of Plymouth and later Countess Amherst (sister-in-law of Earl de la Warr). In 1920 Mr. (afterwards Sir) Charles Thomas-Stanford bought the copyhold interests of the Marquess of Abergavenny ($\frac{1}{2}$), Earl de la Warr ($\frac{1}{4}$), and Lord Sackville, the successor in title of Countess Amherst ($\frac{1}{4}$), for £1600 and presented the property to the Sussex Archaeological Society. The Society then acquired the freehold interest of the lords, the Duchess of Norfolk, the Marquess of Abergavenny, and Earl de la Warr; the copyholds merged in the freehold, and for the first time since the 15th century this part of the castle ceased to be the subject of joint ownership.⁴⁶ The Brack Mount (see below) remained in the hands of the lords until 1937, when, through the good offices of Mrs. Henry Dudeney, the Society was able to purchase the freehold.⁴⁷

When the lordship was in the king's hands, the castle sometimes emerges fitfully from obscurity. Between 12 June 1240 and 21 September 1241, William de Munceaus was keeper of the Warenne lands and of Lewes castle, during the minority of the heir.⁴⁸ His successor was Peter of Savoy.⁴⁹ The king, under pressure from the barons, appointed keepers again on 8 June 1264, after the Battle of Lewes.⁵⁰ In September 1398 Richard II made Thomas Attacton porter of the castle after the Earl of Arundel's forfeiture.⁵¹ Similarly Henry Rake was appointed porter and bailiff of the castle and town in 1477 during a minority.⁵² The names of other officials occasionally survive, for example that of John North, constable on 24 June 1393,⁵³ and of Thomas Lancaster, porter some time before October 1477.⁵⁴ In 1498 and later the bedell of the castle received 3s. 4d. yearly;⁵⁵ sometimes the bailiff of the barony was also porter of the castle, for example John Young in 1559–60.⁵⁶ It is very possible that the three offices of bailiff of the barony, bailiff of the town, and porter of the castle were normally combined.⁵⁷

The position of the castle in the economy of the borough is difficult to define. The separation of the castle precincts was generally recognized by the early 17th century;⁵⁸ later the phrase 'liberty of the castle' might even be used.⁵⁹ Many tenements around the castle continued to be held as copyhold from the lords until the present day;⁶⁰ 'the waste of the manor' or of

the lord, frequently mentioned in court rolls from the early 17th century on, seems to have lain chiefly, but not exclusively,⁶¹ around the castle precincts.⁶² In 1939 only one small piece of wall remains to the lords of Lewes, and the castle site is largely owned by the Sussex Archaeological Trust.⁶³ The inhabitants of the castle precincts were exempted from the town-tax,⁶⁴ and the precincts were extra parochial.⁶⁵ In 1801 there were 78 inhabitants of the precincts, in 1811, 16, in 1821, 27.⁶⁶

The castle was used as a prison from the 13th century on, if not before.⁶⁷ John de Warenne, Earl of Surrey, had by immemorial custom a prison in the town of Lewes,⁶⁸ and his prison must surely have been within the castle. In 1278 there is mention of 'Hame-lin the Porter of Lewes who holds the prison in fee',⁶⁹ but there is nothing to show whether he was porter of the castle or of the town. A case reported in the same year suggests that there was a town prison: the sheriff's bailiff had arrested Oliver fitz Ernis, the steward of Lewes, and John le Sumter, his groom, and handed them over to the township of Lewes to guard. The township allowed them to go into the castle, from which they escaped by a back gate. They were retaken while trying to cross the river, and 'the earl kept Oliver, but John was committed to gaol'.⁷⁰ Prisoners could be kept at Lewes for three days before being sent on to the county jail at Guildford,⁷¹ a period that was sometimes exceeded.⁷² The earl certainly used the castle as a prison in the middle of the 14th century.⁷³ The 'king's prison at Lewes', which appears in the mid-13th century, might mean the earl's prison temporarily in the king's hands during a minority;⁷⁴ but in 1298 the king's prison at Lewes is mentioned,⁷⁵ when no such explanation is possible. Presumably the term would apply to any prison for offenders against the king's peace. In June 1381, the Earl of Arundel was required to retain prisoners in the castles of Arundel and Lewes, since Guildford jail was full after the Peasants' Revolt,⁷⁶ and the next year a felons' jail was formally set up in Lewes castle for two years.⁷⁷

Throughout the Middle Ages Guildford castle was the usual county jail for Surrey and Sussex, but in 1487 the inhabitants of Sussex petitioned for a jail to be erected 'at a place convenient within the town of

⁴⁶ *Ex. inf.* Mr. F. Bentham Stevens, quoting deeds in possession of Suss. Arch. Trust.

⁴⁷ *Suss. N. & Q.* vi, 212.

⁴⁸ He received £40 for the period 12 June 1240–12 June 1241 (*Cal. Lib.* 1240–5, p. 42) and 10 marks for 12 June–21 Sept. 1241 (*ibid.* p. 87).

⁴⁹ Appointed 28 Sept. 1241: *Cal. Pat.* 1232–47, p. 260.

⁵⁰ *Cal. Pat.* 1258–66, pp. 323, 326.

⁵¹ *Ibid.* 1396–9, p. 426.

⁵² *Ibid.* 1476–85, p. 48 (16 Oct.).

⁵³ *Add. Chart.* 30556, 30557.

⁵⁴ *Cal. Pat.* 1476–85, p. 48.

⁵⁵ *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 101; cf. S. P. Dom. Case A, Eliz. No. 6.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

⁵⁷ Cf. *infra*, p. 24 n. 14.

⁵⁸ e.g. Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 106. Yet in 1802, evidence at a scrutiny of votes laid down that 'the whole castle is within the borough': *Suss. Arch. Soc. Deeds*, W.H. 219.

⁵⁹ Woolgar, 'Spicelegia', fol. 292 (*Suss. Arch. Soc.*).

⁶⁰ *Ex. inf.* Mr. F. Bentham Stevens.

⁶¹ Thus a grant from the lord's waste was made in Keere Street in 1618 (Court

rolls, Lewes, 12 v.); and near Steward's Inn in 1739: *Suss. Arch. Soc. Deeds*, A. 463.

⁶² e.g. Court Book, Lewes, 12, 40, 41.

The lord's waste was regarded as part of the borough rather than as part of the castle precinct: *Suss. Arch. Soc. Deeds*, W.H. 219.

⁶³ See above.

⁶⁴ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 106.

⁶⁵ In 1802 evidence was given that the house of a certain voter, built on a parcel of the lords' waste granted in 1722, and apparently regarded as within the precincts of the castle, was outside parish perambulations but inside borough perambulations (*Suss. Arch. Soc. Deeds*, W.H. 219). The vote was allowed, although it was contended that the voter was not an inhabitant householder paying scot and lot.

⁶⁶ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 286.

⁶⁷ Prisoners were taken from Lewes to Lambeth in 1192, possibly from the lord's prison in the castle: *Pipe R.* 3 and 4 *Rich. I* (Pipe R. Soc.), 204.

⁶⁸ *Plac. de Quo. War.* (Rec. Com.), 751.

⁶⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxi, 88.

⁷⁰ *Assize R.* 921, m. 13 d. From at

least the beginning of the 17th century the West Gate was used as a prison: *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 124; Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 165.

⁷¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 115; *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 503.

⁷² *Cal. Close*, 1302–7, p. 299, an order, while the lands were in the king's hands, to deliver a prisoner 'long imprisoned there'; cf. *Ass. R.* 926: a prisoner had been kept 8 days in the earl's prison and was then acquitted before his steward.

⁷³ *Cal. Pat.* 1350–4, p. 430, referring to an order of Earl Warenne, who died in 1347.

⁷⁴ e.g. *Close R.* 1247–51, p. 175; cf. *ibid.* 1261–4, p. 7.

⁷⁵ *Cal. Chan. War.* i, 82. In 1349 'the lord king's prison in the castle of Lewes' again appears, at a time when the late earl's lands were in the hands of his widow: *Assize R.* 941 A, m. 8.

⁷⁶ *Cal. Pat.* 1381–5, p. 73.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.* p. 119. Cf. *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 64. A jail delivery of Guildford, in 1394, was concerned with various prisoners previously indicted before the Earl of Arundel's steward at Lewes: *Gaol Delivery R.* 178, m. 9.

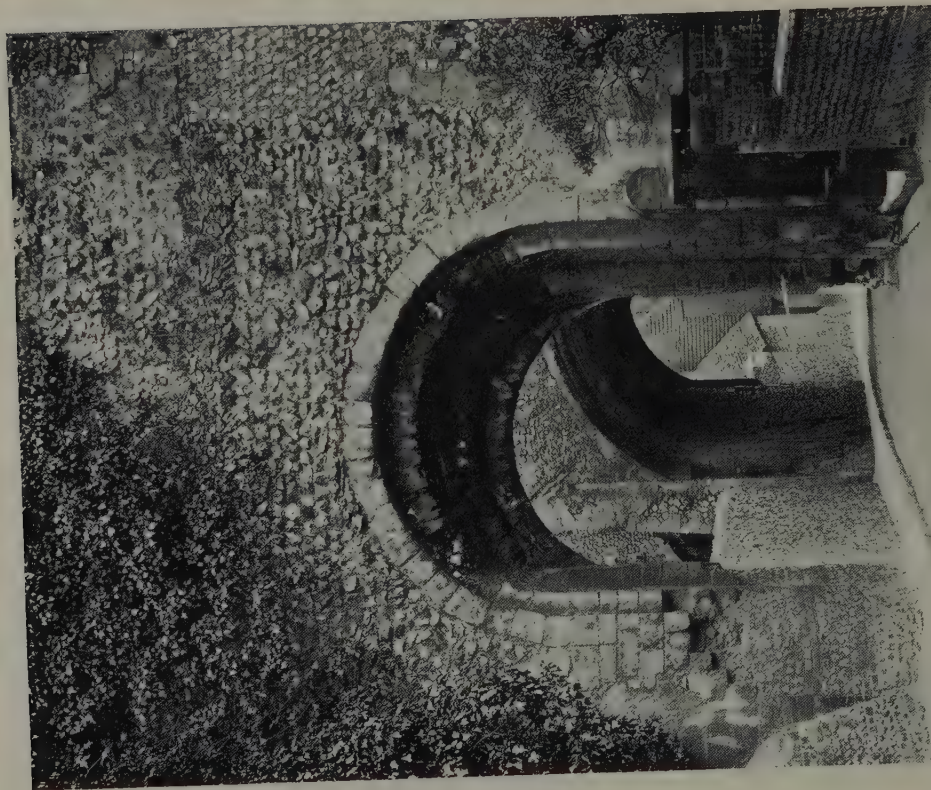


LEWES: THE CASTLE AND BRACK MOUNT, FROM THE NORTH-WEST, *c.* 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)

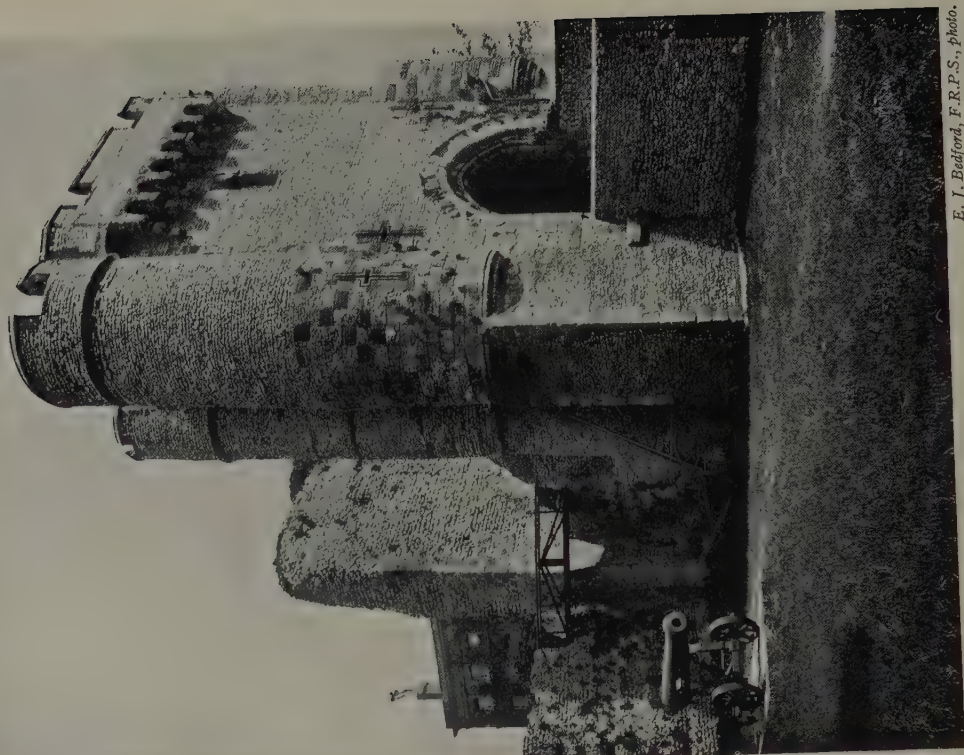


LEWES: THE CASTLE, FROM THE SOUTH

E. J. Bedford, F.R.P.S., photo.



E. J. Bedford, F.R.P.S., photo.
LEWES CASTLE: THE NORMAN GATEWAY



LEWES CASTLE: THE BARBICAN

E. J. Bedford, F.R.P.S., photo.

Lewes',⁷⁸ and the first commission to deliver the jail of Lewes seems to have been issued in July, 1489.⁷⁹ After 1497 such commissions were specifically directed to the delivery of the jail of Lewes castle.⁸⁰ It was not apparently until 1610 that the county jail was moved outside the castle.⁸¹ The sheriff of Surrey and Sussex was keeper of the county jail in Lewes castle,⁸² but must have acted sometimes by deputy.⁸³

The 'twin mounds of loyal Lewes' which 'looked up to what was one day to be the battleground of English freedom'⁸⁴ have little known history. The lords were, on the whole, consistently loyal to the crown; on the eve of the Battle of Lewes the lord Edward was the guest of Earl Warenne within the castle; after the battle the castle still stood firm until the truce, although its lord had fled. Lewes castle was still thought of as of military importance in 1336,⁸⁵ but its strength was never again put to the test. That the earls used Lewes castle as a residence is shown by the numbers of letters thence addressed, especially in the 14th century.⁸⁶ On the ending of the direct line in 1347 the pre-eminent position of the castle was gradually lost, but there is no proof that immediately 'the antiquated pile was suffered to moulder piece-meal'.⁸⁷ Letters were issued there by Richard, Earl of Arundel, then Lord of Lewes, in 1364,⁸⁸ although he doubtless more often lived at Arundel; and again by Thomas Mowbray Duke of Norfolk, in 1397,⁸⁹ although the castle had been seriously damaged in 1381, when buildings, gates, windows, and records were destroyed.⁹⁰ It was used by Richard, Earl of Arundel, as a storehouse for wool,⁹¹ and had an armament of at any rate four guns, and a military equipment of 17 basinetts.⁹² There is, however, no evidence of the castle being used as a residence after the beginning of the 15th century. In 1620 some of the buildings were being pulled down and the flints were sold.⁹³ The castle green was used in later times for public meetings, as, for example, in 1658 when a meeting of Quakers was dispersed by the mob.⁹⁴ Defoe noted about 1725 that 'the castle is lately repaired and there are now several handsome rooms in it',⁹⁵ and the Kemps fitted up the keep as a sort of summer-house. Since 1850 it has been in the occupation of the Sussex Archaeological Society, at first as tenants and since 1920 as owners.

Lewes Castle has the usual Early Norman motte-and-bailey plan, with the unusual addition of a second mound. The fortified enclosure lies just north of the High Street, from which it is approached by Castle Gate. It forms a rough oval some 450 ft. × 380 ft.,

excluding the mounds, which lie to the south-west and north-east. On the south it is defended by a bank and dry moat, now largely filled in, and on the north by the natural escarpment of the hill on which the town is built. Some sections of the curtain wall still stand on the top of the bank overlooking Castle Ditch, chiefly consisting of the chalk core, with a certain amount of later flint facing. A section west of Castle Gate overlooking 'the gun garden' retains its original flint facing laid in courses and in herringbone fashion. No part of the northern wall remains above ground except a small portion, part of Castle Precincts House, on which probably one of the domestic buildings of the castle abutted, since there is a barrel vault still existing beneath the house.⁹⁶ A considerable fragment of the Early Norman Gateway is preserved and includes its southern wall and archway and most of its eastern wall projecting northwards from the curtain. The walls of the Gatehouse are 8 ft. thick, and from a recent excavation its internal dimensions were found to be 32 ft. from north to south and 22 ft. from east to west.⁹⁷ There are two arches, each of two orders with semicircular rings of Caen stone to the outer and inner face, the latter being higher than the former owing to the slope of the ground. The southern external angles are quoined in Caen stone, and part of the internal quoining on both sides of the northern face remains. The rest of the facing is in large coursed flintwork laid in the rough herringbone manner of the late 11th century. There is a small chamber below the roadway on the site of the Gatehouse, but its walls are modern. There are signs that an outbuilding with a span roof stood against the south wall towards the moat, to the east of the entrance, when the Barbican was built in the 14th century.

Of the two mounds the eastern, known as Brack Mount⁹⁸ may have been the earlier, and its position was no doubt chosen to command the river valley. It now has no building upon it save a fragment of fallen masonry faced with flint, but the 1620 plan of Lewes shows the remains of a shell keep. The ditch between it and the Bailey has been filled in. The western mound is 65 ft. above the level of the High Street at Castle Gate, and about 20 ft. higher than Brack Mount. On its summit is a shell keep, roughly elliptical in shape, the internal diameters measuring about 85 and 75 ft. The wall, of which the south-western part is tolerably complete, has a marked batter at the foot on the outside, being about 7 ft. thick above the batter and 10 ft. at floor level. The parapet platform is 22 ft.

⁷⁸ *Rot. Parl.* (Rec. Com.), vi, 388.

⁷⁹ *Cal. Pat.* 1485-94, p. 284. Cf. *ibid.* 443 (1493).

⁸⁰ e.g. *Cal. Pat.* 1494-1509, p. 117. Lewes and Guildford were usually associated in such commissions, and often the same commissioners also delivered the jails of Hertford and Colchester (e.g. *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, iv (i), 1136 (11)) and occasionally of Canterbury (*ibid.* xii (i), 311 (30)). Often the commissioners for the jails of Lewes and Guildford met at Southwark (e.g. in 1543, *ibid.* xviii (i), p. 68; cf. *Cal. Pat. Edw. VI*, i, p. 74) and sometimes elsewhere; thus in 1538 the Sussex jail delivery was held at East Grinstead: *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (i), 888 (4). It is thus clear that Lewes castle was the county prison long before 1530 (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 21), but it is not known what part of the castle housed the prison (*ibid.* x, 213).

⁸¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xviii, 68. In this year the county jail in the Cliffe, on the south side of the High Street, was built.

⁸² The petition of 1487 demands this (*Rot. Parl.* (Rec. Com.), vi, 388)) and it is true, for example, in 1515 (*L. and P. Hen. VIII* ii (i), 1150) and 1532 (*Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* vii, App. 601 b).

⁸³ In 1580 Lord Buckhurst asked the sheriff for the keepership for an old servant (*ibid.* 634 b).

⁸⁴ Freeman, *William Rufus*, i, 59.

⁸⁵ *Cal. Close*, 1333-7, p. 679.

⁸⁶ e.g. letters survive dated from Lewes Castle on 31 May 1331 (*Lewes Chart*, i, 68), 30 Mar. 1332 (*Cal. Pat.* 1330-4, p. 458), 27 July 1339 (*ibid.* 1345-8, p. 58), 20 Feb. 1346 (*Lewes Chart*, i, 68).

⁸⁷ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 158.

⁸⁸ *Cal. Close*, 1364-8, p. 69 (7 April 1364).

⁸⁹ *Lewes Chart*, i, 72.

⁹⁰ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 510.

⁹¹ *Cal. Pat.* 1396-9, p. 350 (21 Aug. 1397); *Cal. Fine R.* xi, p. 227. Cf. Escheator's Accounts, Surr. and Suss. 211/3A, m. 6 (June-Sept. 1397).

⁹² Chan. Inq. Misc. 269, no. 11 (6).

⁹³ Godfrey, *Lewes Castle* (1928), 13.

⁹⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 22.

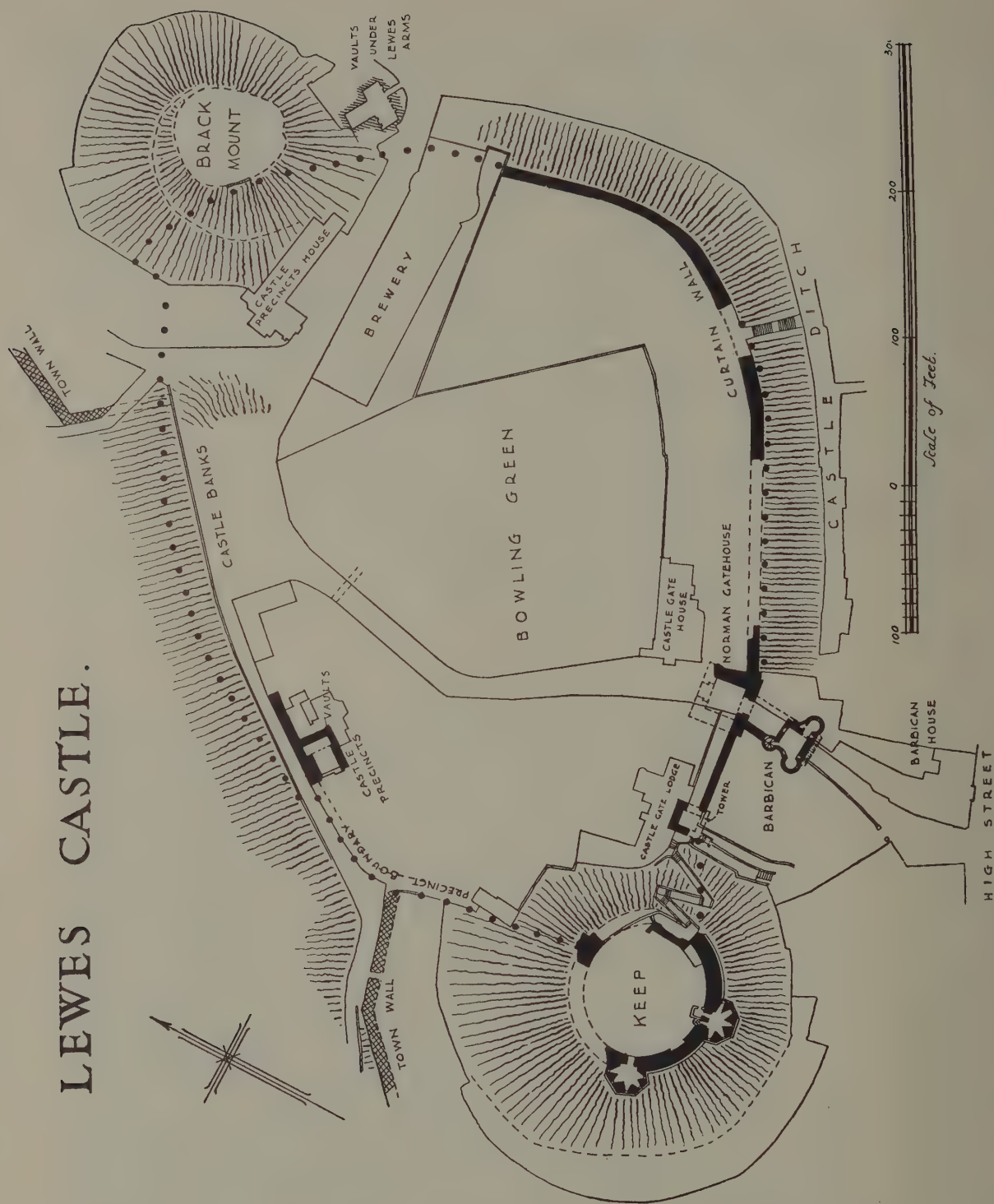
⁹⁵ D. Defoe, *Tour through Gt. Brit.* i, 165 (8th ed., 1778).

⁹⁶ This vault may possibly have belonged to 'the old hall and chamber within the bailey of the castle of Lewes' repaired in 1240: Pipe R. 25 Hen. III.

⁹⁷ It is possible that it was of two bays, like the contemporary gate at Arques in Normandy.

⁹⁸ In a plan of Lewes of 1620 it is called Bray Castle, and has a ring of masonry round its summit. It occurs in 1576 as 'le Bracke Castell': Add. Ch. 30621.

LEWES CASTLE.



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above the ground level, and above this the walls of the battlements are irregular, having been robbed of their ashlar coping, and give an uncertain indication of where the merlons stood. The external flint facing of the Keep is of the same herringbone courses of large flints noticed in the Gateway, and can scarcely be later than the very beginning of the 12th century. It is probable that at Lewes it was intended from the first to defend both mounds with masonry, since, where they have been excavated, the core of the mounds themselves appears to have been built up of large squared blocks of chalk.

Attached to the south and west sides of the Keep are semi-octangular towers, of 13th-century date. Externally they are flint-faced with stone quoins to the angles and three stone set-offs, one below present ground-level, one midway between this and the parapet, and the third midway between the other two; beneath the lowest set-off the tower walls are widely battered as they descend the slope of the mound. These towers have suffered a good deal of alteration, and the entrances to both are modern. Originally the centre of each face near the internal ground level was pierced by an arrow loop. The splays from these loops met at the internal angles of the towers and the openings had two-centred inner arches, which for the most part remain. The splays, however, have been cut back to allow for modern windows, and although the stones of the loops are preserved in part on the outside, below the windows, only one is to be seen from within (the south loop in the west tower) and this is partly restored. Above the springing of the internal arches in the west tower are stone corbels, which probably carried the ribs of a vault occupying the central portion of each tower and supporting the floor, which afforded access to the upper line of loops high up in the walls. These loops are pierced in the external angles of each octagon, the halves of the rear-arch of each embrasure being thus in adjacent walls and not in the same plane. The floors that served these defences were very little above the fighting platform of the main parapet, with which they communicated by doorways. The south tower had a vice in its eastern wall which led up to the roof, but only traces of this are visible. The present newel stair and the porch are modern. The original parapets to the towers have also been altered.

The wall of the Keep has a row of corbels on its inner face which no doubt supported the plate carrying a pent roof. There are also indications of two large fire-places, one (opened up) west of the south tower, and the other to the east. There is no sure indication of the entrance to the Keep, but an L-shaped block of masonry within its eastern limit may be part of the foundations of an entrance tower. The short arm of the L is in line with the foundations of a wall built on a chord to the NE. segment of the Keep, discovered and recorded in 1884. A large fragment of the Keep wall at the NE. point retains the western reveal of a postern door, whence steps descended on to the top of the wall, which was no doubt built on the Keep mound to connect the Keep with the northern curtain of the Bailey.

The present ascent to the Keep has no ancient features, but there must have been a stone stair, protected by a wall to the southern curtain, and at the point where it would have joined the parapet are the remains of a square stone tower, about midway between the

Keep and the main Gatehouse. Parts of the northern and western walls remain and the inner quoins of the eastern angle. The southern wall has disappeared, but from the marks of re-building in the curtain wall at this point it seems clear that the towers projected south of the curtain, being possibly carried on a strong corbel table overhanging the moat.

The Barbican⁹⁹ or Outer Gatehouse was built in the first part of the 14th century by John seventh Earl Warenne, who died in 1347. The lower part is roughly rectangular in plan with two square projecting towers flanking the south entrance and a circular stair or vice at its north-west angle. The turret in which the stair is placed continues down to the Moat, but the steps begin at the level of the parapet to the curtain wall. The passage through the Barbican enters under a two-centred arch of two moulded orders, the same mouldings being carried down the jambs. The arches are struck from centres below the springing, so that the arch and jamb mouldings have to mitre. The passage emerges on the north under a similar arch of more elaborately moulded orders, at a rather higher level to allow of the rise in the roadway. The mouldings die into the west side of this opening, but apparently continued down the east jamb. Immediately to the south of this arch are the vertical grooves for the portcullis, and 4 ft. south of this are grooves for another portcullis that descended between twin arches, moulded on the outer sides. The space between the south entrance and the portcullis arches was originally vaulted with wall and diagonal ribs, the two south springers being still in position. On the first floor the square towers on either side of the entrance are overhung by circular bartizans which are carried on a bold series of circular corbel-tables. The west wall is carried obliquely by a pointed arch from the centre of the south-west turret to corbels adjoining the stair. The east turret, of which only a fragment remains some 14 ft. above the corbeling, is separated by a wall from the room over the gateway and at the angle of junction between the turret and main building an arch is thrown across to form a garde-robe partly recessed in the wall. Half the entrance door to this chamber remains, and the space for discharge is visible. Part of the east wall north of the garde-robe is carried on corbels, and the remainder shows where it was built against the outwork of the Norman gateway.

The room on the first floor is modernized; it retains an original single-light window on the north with trefoil head, and has a modern light to the west. In the east wall is a recess for a window, since blocked. There are two cruciform loops, with moulded external openings to the south wall and three in each turret, those looking north being unmoulded. The room on the second floor has a similar window to that below on the north and also on the south front, and a modern light to the west. There are no loops at this level, but a recess inside the west turret suggests that there was an opening at one time.

The facing of the south front between the turrets and above the archway is of squared and knapped flint work. The parapet is brought forward on bold machicolations carried on arched stones over seven triple corbels, and side corbels on the turrets. The parapet is embattled, but is largely restored. The west turret was rebuilt in 1894.

⁹⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxx, 9 *et seq.* Further repairs were undertaken recently, when reinforced concrete floors and roof were inserted to strengthen the building.

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The bowling green within the castle precincts is said to have been in continuous use for some three centuries.

Information as to the constitutional history of the mesne borough of Lewes is scanty; though the burgesses possibly exercised some governmental power in early times, their status and functions are not known.

At the Conquest they almost certainly held a court.¹ A solitary authentic reference to a merchant gild is tantalizingly uninformative. Rainald de Warenne, acting on behalf of his brother, the third William de Warenne, absent on Crusade, addressed a letter to the Sheriff of Lewes (that is, the lord's sheriff of the rape), and the barons and other men of the earldom. This announced the restoration of a merchant gild to the burgesses 'with all the customs and privileges (*dignitatibus*) which belong to it, as quit and free as they had it in the time of my grandfather and father, for 20s. payable yearly, to the provost (*prefectur*) of Lewes'.² There are no other references to this merchant gild, and any connexion traced between it and the organization of the borough in Elizabethan times must be conjectural; nor does the provost, or prefecture, which has been unwarrantably identified with the constableness,³ appear in any other reference.

The reeve is the earliest known official of Lewes. He appears in Domesday Book as the recipient of the customary fines;⁴ a reeve owed 2 marks to the Exchequer for a default in 1177,⁵ and reeves of Lewes appear as witnesses to 13th-century deeds.⁶ The title reappears occasionally in the 18th century.⁷ The serjeant of Lewes was possibly attached to the priory;⁸ and finally, there are the bailiffs and constables.

Royal mandates to Lewes were normally addressed to the bailiffs and good men,—a formula first found in use in 1266;⁹ sometimes to the bailiffs and burgesses.¹⁰



THE BOROUGH OF LEWES.
Chequy . . . a sinister
quarter . . . with a lion
. . . between eight crosslets
. . . thereon.*

In 1247 the bailiff is clearly an official of the overlord.¹¹ It is probably significant that a Richard le Clerk is called reeve in a deed of about 1250,¹² and a Richard le Clerk is described as bailiff of the borough in an undated deed, which has been assigned to the reign of Edward I.¹³ It is possible that the lord's bailiffs in Lewes were often his bailiffs also within the rape; too few names survive for either office to justify generalization, but the offices were certainly sometimes combined,¹⁴ and one bailiff of the rape certainly was also given the office of 'clerk of the town'.¹⁵ The appointment of a town clerk was not repeated until the 18th century.¹⁶ The association of the borough and the lordship is likewise shown in an appointment made by the king on 16 October 1477, during the minority of Anne Mowbray, when Henry Rake was made porter of the castle and bailiff of both castle and town, with the accustomed fees of his predecessor, which suggests continuity of practice rather than innovation.¹⁷ The evidence on the whole suggests that the bailiffs represented the interests of the lord and that there was therefore no need to limit their activities to the borough.

By the mid-16th-century the government of Lewes was exercised by a close aristocratic body, the Society or Fellowship of the Twelve, assisted by a Council of Twenty-Four, while the chief officials were the constables and headboroughs. Any connexion between these bodies and officials and the merchant gild of Stephen's day lacks concrete proof. Though it is also unsound to identify constables and bailiffs,¹⁸ and the two types of official existed concurrently, yet the constables very possibly originated early.¹⁹ In 1372 the removal of two constables and appointment of their successors was recorded on the rolls of the borough court,²⁰ which may be suggestive, since in Elizabethan times and later, and in 'time beyond all memory', the constables were chosen at the annual lawday held on the first Monday after Michaelmas.²¹

Thus, although the burghal status of Lewes before and after the Conquest is unmistakable,²² yet the later Middle Ages provide no further evidence as to

* The arms first occur on the seal (see below, p. 25); the tinctures are uncertain. Burke, *General Armorial*, gives chequy argent and azure, the quarter argent, lion azure, and crosslets sable. Horsfield (*Lewes*, i, 257) and most modern representations make the chequers or and azure (for Warenne). Horsfield shows the quarter gules and the lion argent; so does Godfrey (*Lewes*), with the crosslets or. In the Town Hall the quarter is azure, lion and crosslets or, 'for Braose' (*Suss. N. & Q.* i, 36), who had no connexion with Lewes.

¹ Tait, *Med. Eng. Bor.* 57.

² *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.*), ii, 25.

³ e.g. Godfrey, *Lewes*, (1st ed.), 4, but since corrected, and Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 171.

⁴ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 435. Cf. Ballard, *Domesday Bor.* 46.

⁵ Ailwin, reeve of Lewes, deceased: *Pipe R.* 24 *Hen. II* (*Pipe Roll. Soc.*), 90.

⁶ e.g. Richard le Clerk c. 1250: *Lewes Chart.* ii, 8; John de Mallings, temp. Henry III: *Anc. D.* (*P.R.O.*) A. 4176.

⁷ Thus Aaraunh Verral, bailiff of the honor (Aber. Coll. xlviii, fol. 161), is also described as reeve (*ibid.* 219, 1768) and beadle (*ibid.* 232).

⁸ Benedict the serjeant of Lewes was

witness to a deed of c. 1224 (*Lewes Chart.* i, 124), while Benedict serjeant of the prior was a witness in 1212 (*ibid.* ii, 73).

⁹ *Cal. Pat.* 1258-66, p. 590.

¹⁰ *Close R.* 1242-7, p. 207.

¹¹ *Lewes Chart.* ii, 21.

¹² *Ibid.* 8.

¹³ *Add. Ch.* 17280.

¹⁴ Thomas Brian accounted as bailiff for the issues of a purparty of both borough and barony for 1514-15 (*Add. MS.* 5701, fol. 48); as did John Yonge for 1559-60 (*State Papers, Dom. Case A, Eliz. no. 6*). Similarly, Nicholas Durrant accounted for the Countess of Derby's share of the issues of Lewes borough in 1533-4 (*Mins. Accts.* 6158), and likewise to the Duke of Norfolk for a share of the issues of both borough (*ibid.* 6305, fol. 29) and barony (*ibid.* fol. 35). Earlier, in 1476, Thomas Lancaster was bailiff alike of the borough and the barony: *Mins. Accts.* (*P.R.O.*) 454, no. 7312.

¹⁵ *Cal. Pat.* 1485-94, p. 65. Cf. *ibid.* p. 58.

¹⁶ *Infra*, p. 28.

¹⁷ *Cal. Pat.* 1476-85, p. 48. Charles Barlow, who accounted for Lewes issues in 1498-9 (*Suss. N. & Q.* v, 65), accounted for other manors belonging to the lord, but not for all.

¹⁸ As is done, for example, in 'The Ancient Merchant Guild of Lewes' (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxi, 98) where it is said that Henry III's grant of murage, actually addressed to the bailiffs and good men of Lewes (*Cal. Pat.* 1258-66, p. 590), is addressed to the constables.

¹⁹ Though there is no foundation for the supposition that Henry II instituted two constables of Lewes: Dunvan, *Hist. Lewes*, 128.

²⁰ Norfolk Muniments, Bundle B, m. 2.

²¹ *Book of J. Rowe*, 120. Exceptionally in 1669 (Dunvan, *Lewes*, 250), and 1673 (Town-book, i, fol. 106) constables were chosen at quarter sessions. A list of constables from 1544 to 1881, when the borough received its charter of incorporation, hangs above the staircase of Lewes Town Hall, and is printed in Holman's *Lewes Directory* for 1882.

²² It is noteworthy that tenements in Lewes never appear to be described as burgage tenements, although they have some of their characteristics. The evidence, however, is too scanty to upset the late Mr. Ballard's generalizations as to the unvarying characteristics of the 12th-century borough: Ballard, *Eng. Bor. in Twelfth Cent.* 30; Tait, *British Borough Charters*, xlix.

its constitutional development and the town then appears to possess little more than the normal attributes of a manorial borough. Yet it is probable that during the 15th century its constitution as we later know it was being developed.

It is to this period that the earliest town *SEAL*, inscribed *SIGILLUM · COMUNE · BURGI · DE · LEWYS* and bearing the arms of the borough, probably belongs.²³ The smaller seal of similar design, inscribed *SIGILLUM · BURGI · DE · LEWYS*²⁴ is probably a later copy.²⁵ The brass matrices are still in the possession of the Corporation of Lewes, and the larger is still in use.

The *MANOR* of Lewes is a phrase which rarely occurs in the early Middle Ages,²⁶ but became usual about 1476, when it was used in inquisitions *post mortem*;²⁷ it appears occasionally under Henry VIII and frequently, in various connexions, under Elizabeth, and continued to be used in the court-books of the borough till they end in 1925.²⁸ It often occurs in general phrases used to describe the various possessions of the lords of Lewes,²⁹ and occasionally as equivalent to lordship;³⁰ it frequently appears in the form the 'manor of Lewes borough'.³¹ In the earliest surviving court-books of Lewes borough, of the 17th century, the 'custom of the manor' is continually mentioned. It is hardly possible to assign any very definite meaning to the phrase, but it is certain that from the late 16th century on 'the manor of Lewes borough' meant in law the entity over which the lords exercised manorial rights in relation to land, quite apart and distinct from the burghal entity of the borough of Lewes. The customs and procedure of the court followed normal manorial lines, and Lewes must now be regarded, in some aspects, though not in all, as akin to a manorial borough.³²

In the later Tudor period the town was governed by 'a society of the wealthier and discreter sort of townsmen, commonly called the Twelve' which had existed 'time out of mind'.³³ This society, often known as the fellowship,³⁴ was never supposed to be as small as twelve or larger than twenty-four;³⁵ in 1587 it numbered twenty, including the constables,³⁶ in 1592 and 1593, eighteen.³⁷ Vacancies caused by death or

removal were filled up by election by the remaining members on Whitsunday afternoon.³⁸ The earliest reference to the Twelve dates from 1542.³⁹ In theory the constables were chosen from this body,⁴⁰ though there was no rigid adherence to this rule.⁴¹ The Twelve authorized the town-tax and fixed its rate;⁴² moreover they issued by-laws, which covered a variety of topics,⁴³ and punished their infringement.⁴⁴ Associated with the Twelve were a body of Twenty-four, appointed under fixed conditions, from whom the Twelve were chosen.⁴⁵

By-laws of 1550 laid down that the constables were to read the by-laws aloud annually, that members of the fellowship must attend meetings, that the constables must make collections for their charges while in office or lose the proceeds, that the old constables should hand over the town's possessions to their successors, and so on.⁴⁶ In 1595 a town's meeting of the inhabitants, a 'general assembly', appears to have been held to authorize other regulations;⁴⁷ these included provisions as to elections to the Twelve,⁴⁸ as to their dress—'decent and comely apparel fit for ancient townsmen'—as to their duty to attend meetings for the service of the queen or the business of the town, and as to the penalties for non-attendance; all townsmen were to bring out their armour and weapons for inspection on the Monday in Whitsun week. Members of the Twenty-four were required to walk with their company on Whit-Monday afternoon, to sup with them 'according to the ancient order' and to show their armour; defaulters were to be punished by three hours' imprisonment or a fine of 2s. 6d.⁴⁹ There is doubtless some echo of seignorial control in the stipulation that the Twenty-four were to be chosen in the Town-house on Whitsunday after evening prayer, and are not any more to be chosen in the Castle 'for the avoiding of further disorder'. Headboroughs were to attend with staves upon the constables when required; they were to levy the town-rate, and account for it to the constables; they were to make imprisonments, put culprits in the stocks, and to obey the constables and fellowship on pain of fine or imprisonment. Stipulations were made as to the regular visiting of inns and

²³ Described in *Cat. Seals (B.M.)*, ii, no. 5055, and attributed to the 15th century.

²⁴ *Ibid.* no. 5056. In 1577 the 'town seal' and 'the seal for vagabonds' were included in the constables' inventories (Town-book, i, fol. 19, cf. *ibid.* 25 v (1586), 31 (1590), &c.); and it is possible that this smaller seal should be identified with the seal for vagabonds.

²⁵ In 1624 the arms of Lewes, as appearing on its common seal, were certified as 'of great antiquity' (certificate in Lewes Corporation records, cf. *Year Book of Lewes Borough Council*, 1937-8, p. 15). The description 'common seal' is found again in 1795 (Town-book, 1740-1812, fol. 92), but a committee inquiring into municipal origins in Lewes in 1833 knew no evidence that the seal had ever been used as a corporate seal (*ibid.* 1813-39).

²⁶ And then only when the lordship was in the king's hands, in 1241 (*Cal. Lib.* 1240-5, p. 36) and 1305 (*Cal. Close*, 1302-7, p. 257).

²⁷ e.g. Chan. Inq. p.m. 16 Edw. IV, file 537, no. 66. This refers to the 'castle, manor, and lordship of Lewes'. Cf. *ibid.* 17 Edw. IV, file 542, no. 58.

²⁸ See below, p. 29 n. 59.

²⁹ e.g. in such forms as 'the castle, lordship, vill, burgh, and manor': Feet of F. Div. Co. Hil. temp. Edw. IV, no. 116. Cf. *supra*, p. 6.

³⁰ A curious phrase is 'the manor of the barony of Lewes': *Cal. Pat. Edw. VI*, ii, 422.

³¹ *Suss. Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiii), 28; *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), pp. 1, 8, 123, &c. For a late instance (1791) see Rough Minutes, Court baron of Lewes Borough (in the Borough Records).

³² Cf. Webb, *Man. & Bor.* i. 173.

³³ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 120.

³⁴ e.g. Town-book, i, fol. 15 v (1571).

³⁵ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 120.

³⁶ Town-book, i, fol. 25 v.

³⁷ *Ibid.* fol. 30 v, 31 v. In 1595 it was laid down (though the entry was later deleted) that the company of the Twelve was not to exceed 18 (*ibid.* fol. 196 v), a number which was certainly subsequently exceeded: *ibid.* fol. 82 v (1651), 87 v (1657), 89 v. (1659). The names of the twelve were given occasionally, not annually; the last list of names is in 1663 (*ibid.* fol. 94 v).

³⁸ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 120.

³⁹ Town-book, i, fol. 21.

⁴⁰ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 120.

⁴¹ There is no evidence that John Rowe himself was ever a member of the Twelve, though he was constable in 1598. Various later departures from the rule are noted in Dunvan, *Lewes*, 208.

⁴² *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 123-4.

⁴³ Notably in 1550 (Town-book, i, fol. 3 v) and 1595 (*ibid.* fol. 196 v).

⁴⁴ e.g. by imprisonment or the stocks: Town-book, i, fol. 197; Webb, *Man. & Bor.* 172.

⁴⁵ The Society of the Twenty-Four never, in fact, exceeded 36 at the most (Dunvan, *Lewes*, 193) and it was laid down in 1595 that it should never exceed 27 members: Town-book, i, fol. 196 v.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* fol. 3 v.

⁴⁷ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 171.

⁴⁸ Town-book, i, fol. 196 v.

⁴⁹ The place of the Twenty-Four in the constitution is obscure, for references to this body are very rare. In 1605 Monday after Midsummer was appointed for the meeting of both companies of the borough 'to consult and advise upon divers questionable matters between them for the better governing of the town, the advancement of the king's service and the preservation of unity': Town-book, i, fol. 205 v.

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ale-houses during the winter months for the maintenance of the peace; finally, ambiguities in the regulations were to be settled by a majority of the constables and fellowship.⁵⁰

The evolution of these two town councils is obscure, and the relations of the Twelve and Twenty-four to the Jury of the court leet are also not at all clear, nor is it certain how far the Twelve and the Jury were distinct from each other.⁵¹ The Jury is seldom mentioned in the 16th century, though Rowe showed that the junior constable was to be chosen by the elder constable, with the consent of the greater number of the Jury.⁵² The importance of the court leet and view of frankpledge, held on the first Monday after Michaelmas, is beyond question, for it was there that all the town-officers were chosen—constables, headboroughs, scavenger, pounder, one searcher and one sealer of leather, one clerk of the corn-market, one clerk of the fish-market, one clerk of the butchery, one 'clerk of sparres and withes', together with ale-conners for the four parishes.⁵³ The evidence suggests that the authority of the lords in the leet was normally scanty. There is a certain truculence of tone in Rowe's reference to the annual election of officers 'without any contradiction or alteration by the stewards'.⁵⁴

The subsequent history of the Fellowship of the Twelve by no means clears up the early obscurities. The encroaching influence of the Jury may be detected in 1651, when an order was made at a court leet, with 'the consent of the jurors duly sworn and impanelled' that any member of the Twelve who defaulted at the leet without good cause should pay 2s. 6d. for every such default.⁵⁵ Yet the Twelve were apparently still vigorous in 1652, when they bound themselves to be responsible for various borough charges.⁵⁶ Subsequently, however, the Twelve are rarely mentioned in the town-books, and in 1667 the annual constable's accounts were for the first time submitted to the new constables and the rest of the Jury,⁵⁷ instead of, as before, to the rest of the Fellowship.⁵⁸ Yet it does not appear that the change had any great significance, though much has been made of it.⁵⁹ The change in formula was, however, permanent; the activities of the

Twelve gradually disappear from the town-books, and the appointments of new members cease to be regularly recorded, while their place was taken by the Jury appointed at the leet in October.⁶⁰ In 1696 new members of the fellowship were elected in the normal way,⁶¹ and in 1709 a meeting was summoned for the same purpose, in an attempt to 'revive the ancient customs',⁶² but no names of new members are recorded. The Fellowship then disappears from the town-books, and perhaps actually ended in 1720 with the death of its last member.⁶³ The substitution of the Jury for the Twelve was hardly revolutionary; yet the laments of the Lewes antiquarians, though doubtless exaggerated,⁶⁴ bear testimony to a real change, for with the disappearance of both councils Lewes became simply and entirely a manorial borough.

The Jury of the leet remained in authority throughout the whole year; this is shown especially in the year 1799–1800, when in a series of adjourned law-days the whole administration of the borough was overhauled;⁶⁵ the court leet on that occasion was specifically declared as dissolved in July 1800, but it was noted that the Jury retained their power until a new one was appointed.⁶⁶ The Jury in this year consisted of 17 persons, including the constables but excluding the headboroughs; they were chiefly shop-keepers and tradesmen.⁶⁷ The succeeding Jury, which was described also as 'the representatives of the ancient body called the Twelve', consisted of 22 persons.⁶⁸ In 1833 the Jury set itself up as a committee, subsequently strengthened by many co-options, to consider the government of the town.⁶⁹

The financial arrangements of the borough of Lewes remained somewhat primitive and the sums involved were never very considerable. The main resources from the town, the rents, the farms of tolls and customs, the farm of the fishery, the perquisites of courts, and so on, were divided between the lords,⁷⁰ and produced only a few pounds yearly.⁷¹ The resources remaining to the borough officials were still more exiguous, but their outgoings were likewise small; even in 1873, on the eve of incorporation, the total income of the borough was only £126 15s. 3d.⁷²

⁵⁰ The regulations are printed in Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 171–3. Cf. Dunvan, *Lewes*, 197–205.

⁵¹ For 'self-renewing Common councils, with more or less connexion with the jury of the lord's court' see Webb, *Man. & Bor.* i, 205. Cf. *ibid.* 361. There is a good short account, following Horsfield, of the government of Lewes in the 17th and 18th centuries (*ibid.* 172–3), where some similarity in its constitution to that of Braintree is noted. At Coventry also, where both court leet and council played a part in government, there was considerable identity of personnel in the two bodies: M. D. Harris, *Old English Towns*, 98; *Coventry Leet Book*, pp. xxii–xxiii.

⁵² *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 120.

⁵³ Town-book, i, fols. i, 20, 21, 22; *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 120.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.* 120. Cf. Dunvan's later references to the possible interference of 'some busy overbearing steward of the barony', in the choice of borough officials (Dunvan, *Lewes*, 214). I know no actual evidence of any such interference.

⁵⁵ Town-book, i, fol. 82 v.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* 82.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* 99.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.* 93.

⁵⁹ e.g. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxi, 106–7, which views this as 'a memorable year

when the authority of the society of the Twelve men was set at nought'. Cf. Dunvan, *Lewes*, 209.

⁶⁰ For example the Jury authorized the town-tax (*ibid.* 209).

⁶¹ Town-book, i, fol. 130 v.

⁶² *Ibid.* fol. 143 v.

⁶³ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 177; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxi, 107. In neither case is any evidence cited, however.

⁶⁴ In 1799 William Lee pointed out that the jury were merely 'the imbecile representatives' of the Twelve, and were not descended from them (Town-book, 1740–1812, fol. 100 v.). The old usages, through 'unaccountable neglect and political abuse' had been exposed to many innovations which 'must ultimately tend to the utter subversion of the original constitution . . . to the shameful degradation of a town so ancient, so privileged and so respectable'. Cf. Dunvan, *Lewes*, 211, 273, &c. ⁶⁵ *Infra*, p. 28.

⁶⁶ Town-book, 1740–1812, fol. 103.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.* fol. 100 v.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* fol. 110 v.

⁶⁹ *Infra*, p. 29.

⁷⁰ Accounts of the lords' officials of Lewes borough survive for 1498, Duke of Norfolk's moiety (Mins. Accts. (P.R.O.), 1474, printed in *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 65–70, 97–101); for 1514–15, in summary, the

Duke of Norfolk's quarter (Add. MS. 5701, fol. 48); for 1533–4, purparty of the Countess of Derby (Mins. Accts. 6158) also for the purparty of the Duke of Norfolk (*ibid.* 6305); for 1559–60, purparty of Lord Bergavenny (State Papers Dom. Case A. Eliz. no. 6). References to rent-rolls of the Dukes of Dorset, including Lewes receipts, also occur for 1718–20 (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxix, 144–53, 149).

⁷¹ In 1440 the assized rents of the town were £6 os. 5d.; perquisites of courts 13s. 4d.; tolls of fair and market 19s. 7d.; and 'the fishery of Lewes' was worth £6 13s. 4d.: Mins. Accts. 1120, no. 2. £10 11s. 10d. was the total of the receipts of the Duke of Norfolk's moiety in 1498 (*Suss. N. & Q.* v, 99), while in 1514–15 the Duke received about £4 (Add. MS. 5701, fol. 48); and in 1533–4 the Countess of Derby's share before expenses were deducted was just over £9 (Mins. Accts. 6158). The value of $\frac{1}{3}$ of the borough in 1493 was 26s. 8d. (*Cal. Inq. p.m. Henry VII*, i, 878), more than the £1 at which $\frac{1}{3}$ of the barony was valued in the same year (*ibid.*). The rents of freeholders and copyholders in 1624 amounted to £10 8s. 6d.: *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 8–16.

⁷² *Parl. Papers*, 1880 (Reports of Commissioners), xxxi, 145.

By the mid-16th century, if not earlier,⁷³ the borough of Lewes, although not strictly a corporation, would appear to have owned some lands. In 1571 the constables and fellowship let out on lease for 21 years 'that waste plott of ground within the walls of the broken church under the bell loft there',⁷⁴ that is to say the site of the church of St. Nicholas, for 3s. 4d. yearly, towards the town charges. Similarly in 1573 they leased 'their common brook called the Constable's brooke' for ten years at a rent of 13s. 4d.⁷⁵ This Constable's brook is not to be confused with the Town-brooks, which John Rowe conveyed to feoffees in 1603, in trust for the use of the constables and the Twelve for ever.⁷⁶

An approximate acre of land called the town moot or moat—the word is not legible—lying under St. John's Churchyard on the north side near the common spring, was let in 1586.⁷⁷ Its approximate location agrees with that of the Hangman's Acre which had belonged to the cryer of Lewes and came into the hands of the borough some time after 1690.⁷⁸ Some tenements known as Rotten Row were left to the constables by will 'for the harbouring of three poor people' in 1586.⁷⁹ The lands called the Godfreys came into the possession of the borough in 1703.⁸⁰ Hangman's Acre, the Town Brook, and the Godfreys produced £28 16s. between them, as reported in 1880,⁸¹ and are still the property of the borough.⁸²

By the 17th century, as the result of various borough negotiations and of various gifts,⁸³ the town also owned a certain number of bonds⁸⁴ in addition to its lands. For all ordinary purposes of government however, it appears to have relied upon the levy of a town rate, which was assessed just to cover the necessary expenses. A constable's rate was rare in the southern counties, and it is curious that Lewes and Manchester—those two seigniorial boroughs of such different history and fortunes—alone developed this rate into a substantial contribution towards the expenses of local government.⁸⁵

The earliest actual reference to the tax is in 1550;⁸⁶ in 1552 it produced £5 16s. 7d.⁸⁷ The rate of poundage, a question of a few pence, is seldom stated in the 16th century, when the total receipts of the constables

at their highest were some £32.⁸⁸ The lowest sum received in this period was £2 18s.⁸⁹ Usually only a few shillings remained to be paid into the town-box at the annual audit in October; sometimes a small deficit remained owing to the constables.⁹⁰ After about 1709, however, the expenditure exceeded the receipts with some regularity, another indication of the slackness of the town-government of the period. The amount of the annual charge is now occasionally recorded, and 6d. in the pound is a frequent but maximum charge. Despite stipulations in 1772 that 6d. should never be exceeded,⁹¹ in 1822 the charge was 1s., an amount demanded again in 1823, but subsequently lowered to 6d. as the result of a public meeting;⁹² from 1877 to 1880 the total receipts were £70⁹³ and the rate was only 2d. in the pound.⁹⁴

The legality of these town charges was open to question,⁹⁵ and recalcitrant townsmen intermittently refused to pay. An early instance of distraint for non-payment is in 1569.⁹⁶ Rowe records legal opinions that such distraints were justifiable, provided that the charges were levied for the public good and the common use of the borough.⁹⁷ The lords of the borough seem always to have been acquiescent, though the privilege would never appear to have been enjoyed as a prescriptive right.⁹⁸ The amount was originally fixed by the Twelve at a lawday in August or September, and the headboroughs were responsible for the actual collection.⁹⁹ But from 1772¹ onwards the amount of the tax appears to have been fixed by special meetings of the inhabitants.²

The constable's rate was levied on all inhabitants or housekeepers, but poor persons might be excused upon occasion.³ Old assessments of value appear to have been taken as the basis of the tax,⁴ and the 'scot and lot' which appears in the 18th century⁵ and later, presumably is the town-tax. The purposes for which the tax was used varied.⁶ It was certainly used as a poor-rate in Elizabethan times,⁷ a practice subsequently disallowed.⁸ In that period the wages of the 'burgesses of the parliament' were also for a time allowed.⁹ In 1776 the rate was specifically directed towards the rebuilding of the wall at the West Gate.¹⁰

During the 18th century the town's meeting, an

⁷³ A reference, 1091-8, to 'the lands which the burgesses of Lewes held in Crandon (Cranedean in Falmer)' is obscure: *Lewes Chart*, i, 14, 21. A windmill on Crane Downe belonged to the manor of Southover c. 1600: Add. MS. 32683, f. 9.

⁷⁴ Town-book, i, fol. 5 v. Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 30-1, where the subsequent history of the plot is traced.

⁷⁵ Town-book, i, fol. 16 v, 24; *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 125.

⁷⁶ Ibid. 17. Cf. Horsfield, *Lewes*, 316, for its later history, also *Arch. Journ.* lxxiv, 45.

⁷⁷ Town-book, i, fol. 24.

⁷⁸ Ibid. fol. 121 v. Cf. Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 316; *Suss. Arch. Soc.* xiii, 19.

⁷⁹ Town-book, i, fol. 25 v. Cf. *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 16.

⁸⁰ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 316.

⁸¹ *Parl. Pap.* 1880 (Rep. Comm.), xxxi, 60.

⁸² Borough of Lewes, *Year Book of the Town Council*, 1937-8, p. 25.

⁸³ e.g. a sum of money was left the town by John Keyne in 1586: Town-book, i, fol. 25 v.

⁸⁴ The first are mentioned as being handed over from the outgoing constables

to their successors in 1613 (ibid. 46), but they must have existed earlier.

⁸⁵ Webb, *Man. & Bor.* i, 71; *Par. & County*, 29.

⁸⁶ Town-book, i, fol. 3 v.

⁸⁷ Ibid. fol. 5.

⁸⁸ Viz. in 1596-7 (ibid. 34). A higher sum (£43 16s. 3d.), was received, however, in 1583-4, an exceptional year when Lewes bridge was rebuilt (ibid. 23), in part at the charge of the borough.

⁸⁹ Ibid. 7 (1556). In 1548, however, the constables apparently levied no rate, and merely charged themselves with the balance (17s. 4d.) which had been paid over to them by their predecessors.

⁹⁰ e.g. in 1556, when 6s. was owed them (Town-book, 1542-1740, fol. 7). Annual balances were struck in the Town-book from which a mass of particulars may be obtained.

⁹¹ Town-book, 1740-1812, fol. 37; 119 names follow this resolution.

⁹² Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 229.

⁹³ *Parl. Papers*, 1880 (Rep. Com.), xxxi, 60.

⁹⁴ Constables' Accounts, 1865-81.

⁹⁵ Webb, *Man. & Bor.* i, 71, n. 4, 173. Cf. *Parl. Papers*, 1880 (Rep. Com.), xxxi,

60, also Town-book, 1813-39, for the report of a sub-committee on Lewes town government in 1833.

⁹⁶ Town-book, i, fol. 14 v. Cf. ibid. 15.

⁹⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 123-4. See *supra*, p. 8 n. 6.

⁹⁸ Ibid. 124.

⁹⁹ Ibid. 123.

¹ Town-book, 1740-1812, fol. 37.

² This was shown in evidence before the Municipal Corporation Commissioners in 1880: *Parl. Papers*, 1880, xxxi, 60.

³ Constables' accounts, 1768-9.

⁴ Dunvan, *Lewes*, 275.

⁵ It is mentioned in 1736 in connexion with the franchise (Merewether and Stephens, *Hist. of Bor.* i, 96); cf. Town-book, 1740-1813, fol. 66 v.

⁶ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 123-4, where an account of the charges in Rowe's time is given. Cf. 'the common good and utility' of the borough, mentioned as the object of the rate in 1765-6 (Constables' Accounts, 1764-1865).

⁷ e.g. in 1577 (Town-book, i, fol. 19 v).

⁸ *Infra*, p. 28.

⁹ e.g. Town-book, i, fol. 6 v.

¹⁰ Ibid. 1740-1812, fol. 45 v.

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extra-legal body,¹¹ also met to discuss a variety of other topics. It discussed, for example, whether a watch must be kept at the pest-house while it was inhabited by smallpox victims, and decided, if a town tax to meet the cost was 'found impracticable', to raise the money by subscription from sixteen guarantors.¹² A meeting called to authorize a town tax also forbade wheeled vehicles to be driven on the pavements of the town.¹³ Another meeting discussed the problems of Sussex defence, and made stipulations as to the terms of service;¹⁴ others considered arrangements for a nightly watch,¹⁵ for disposing of the old bell, or building a new market,¹⁶ how to raise a volunteer corps,¹⁷ or to expedite the Act for paving and lighting.¹⁸ Town's meetings were not unknown in the 16th century,¹⁹ but remained infrequent till the reign of George III, and the habit of appointing *ad hoc* committees grew up during the same period; committees were appointed, for example, to make arrangements for building the clock-tower,²⁰ or establishing the nightly watch.²¹

Considerable detailed material survives for a closer study of Lewes in the 18th and 19th centuries, more especially on the financial side, for a series of constables' accounts,²² hitherto unused, exists and, later, the minute-books of Improvements Commissioners.²³ Despite the slackness of administration early in the 18th century the records were on the whole methodically kept.²⁴ From 1746, if not earlier, a clerk of the town,²⁵ sometimes called the constables' clerk²⁶ was employed, but his duties were not yet a whole-time occupation; he is definitely called 'town clerk' in 1830.²⁷

Considerable activity in overhauling the machinery of government was shown in 1799-1800, probably through the influence of William Lee, junior.²⁸ A thorough examination of 'the few remains of the town's property, which have escaped the hands of fraud and official negligence', was instituted; and a careful inventory was made both of the town's possessions and of its losses in the preceding seventy years; this year the

subordinate officials were duly sworn in by the steward at the affairing day;²⁹ an 'occasional borough prison and place of shelter for poor travellers for a night' was fitted up, the constables' right to grant leases was questioned; the billeting of 7,000 soldiers was arranged; a public windmill on the Brack mount was suggested, but quashed by the Duke of Norfolk, and another site found for it; weights and measures were rigorously inspected, and poor relief was limited, as it was considered outside the scope of the town-rate, a change from earlier practice. The boundaries were perambulated 'both by land and water' and a survey made; a town well was rediscovered, cesspools were inspected, and a borough pound was established.

As in so many boroughs, the powers and capacity of the governing body of Lewes could hardly be stretched to cover all the varying needs of a modern community. The attempts of the borough to keep the streets clean,³⁰ to provide watchmen at night,³¹ and so on, do not appear to have been very effective,³² and in 1806 an Act of Parliament, known to Lewes historians as the Town Act, set up improvement commissioners to pave, light, cleanse, watch, and repair the roads and other public places in Lewes.³³ The last clause protected the rights of the lords of the borough.³⁴ The commissioners were presided over at their first meeting by the senior constable, and it is not clear how much new blood was brought into the government of the borough,³⁵ but the technical change, the legal freedom to levy a higher rate and to borrow money, certainly gave more scope for enterprise.³⁶ In December 1881, six months after the formal incorporation of the borough, the undertakings were transferred to the new borough council.³⁷ The Cliffe, under authority of an Act of 1828,³⁸ set up improvement commissioners in the same year,³⁹ while Southover set up inspectors of lighting in 1847.⁴⁰

Despite its pretensions and antiquity, Lewes was not, in the long run, reported upon by the Municipal Corporations Commission of 1834,⁴¹ though the jury

¹¹ Webb, *Man. & Bor.* 172.

¹² Town-book, 1740-1812, fol. 31 (1769).

¹³ Ibid. fol. 37 (1772). The report of this meeting was signed by 119 persons. Yet a town's meeting to authorize a tax might be signed by as few as nine persons: *ibid.* fol. 41 (1774).

¹⁴ Ibid. fol. 53 v (1782); 15 signatures were appended to the account of the proceedings.

¹⁵ Ibid. fol. 85 v, 86.

¹⁶ Ibid. fol. 61 (1786), 76 v (1791), 79.

¹⁷ Ibid. fol. 119 (1803, three meetings).

¹⁸ Ibid., 1740-1812, fol. 129.

¹⁹ Ibid. 1542-1740, fol. 196 v.

²⁰ Ibid. 1740-1812, fol. 61.

²¹ Ibid. fol. 85 v.

²² The constables' accounts give the details of their receipts and expenditure, the Town-books usually only the totals.

²³ No list of the records of Lewes Corporation appears to exist. There are five volumes of Town-books, 1542-1740, 1740-1812, 1813-39, 1840-64, 1865-82; three volumes of Constables' Accounts, 1694-1764, 1764-1865, 1865-81; three volumes entitled Lewes Paving Act, Proceedings of Commissioners (1806-22, 1822-30, 1830-9) continued in five volumes entitled Commissioners of the Borough of Lewes, Minute-Book (1839-46, 1846-52, 1852-66, 1866-80, 1880-1); two volumes entitled Southover Lighting Act, Inspector's Minute Book (1847-70, 1870-81)

and another called Cliffe Improvement, Accounts and Securities (1828-74); a Register of Electors 1832-44; and a Southover Vestry Minute Book (1874-98). In addition there is a small packet of rough minutes of the court-baron of the borough, 1787-1800, with subsidiary documents, recently deposited therethrough the activity of the British Records Association. See *Report, Records Preservation Section*, 1937, p. 10, where their description as rough minutes of the Borough Council is somewhat misleading. These documents concern the lords of Lewes rather than the borough itself.

²⁴ In addition to the surviving records town-tax books were made, probably annually, from 1725, if not earlier: Constables' Accounts, 1694-1764.

²⁵ In 1694 a specific payment was made to one Edward Tipton for writing the town's accounts (Constables' Accounts, 1694-1764), while in 1746-7 'the clerk' was paid a 'salary' of £1 1s. (*ibid.*); similarly in 1766-7 (*ibid.* 1764-1865).

²⁶ e.g. in 1781, Chatfield Turner was called 'clerk to the constables' Town-Book, 1740-1812.

²⁷ Ibid. 1813-39; in 1834 Edward Verall had 'long been town-clerk': *ibid.*

²⁸ Town-book, 1740-1812, fols. 101 et seq.

²⁹ For the affairing day see *infra*, p. 30. It is noticeable that the somewhat unusual 'Clerk of the spars and withes' is no longer appointed.

³⁰ e.g. in 1800: Town-book, 1740-1812, fol. 100.

³¹ Ibid. fol. 85 v, 86. Voluntary subscriptions to defray the expenses of the nightly watch were solicited; three men were to be engaged to perambulate lanes and back ways between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m., and two warm greatcoats, two felt hats, two large horn lanterns, and two watchers' hatchets were to be provided.

³² The idea of applying to parliament for authority to light and pave the streets was mooted in 1789 (*ibid.* 66 v). Cf *ibid.* 129 v.

³³ Cf. Webb, *Stat. Auth.* 245, n. 2.

³⁴ An abstract is printed in Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, app. xliii.

³⁵ Any one paying scot and lot and occupying a messuage of the annual value of £20 or being possessed of a personal estate of £800 was eligible as a commissioner.

³⁶ Lewes Paving Act, Proceedings of Commissioners, 1806-22, pp. 1-2. A rate of 2s. in the pound was charged in the first year (*ibid.* 23).

³⁷ Commissioners of the Borough of Lewes, Minute-book, 1880-81.

³⁸ Stat. 9 Geo. IV, cap. cxxv.

³⁹ See Cliffe Improvement, Accounts and Securities, 1828-74.

⁴⁰ Southover Lighting Act, Inspector's Minute-book, 1847-70.

⁴¹ It was certainly not 'overlooked' by the Commissioners: Webb, *Man. & Bor.* i, 171.

at the court leet had in 1833 resolved themselves into a committee to collect evidence, and sent in a cautious report upon the existing system of government; they were 'not aware of any charter of incorporation' but detailed their existing practice. The constables and headboroughs were described as 'persons whose station in life and engagements are incompatible with duties of police', and the occasion was seized to suggest the expediency of establishing an organized police force. The Commissioners apparently decided that they had no jurisdiction in this case.⁴²

The Commissioners who reported in 1880 had less zealous officials to deal with, and there was very considerable delay in receiving information from Lewes.⁴³ In the report it was not included in the list of those boroughs where it was considered that municipal institutions might usefully be retained,⁴⁴ and thus it should in due course have fallen into the body of the county.⁴⁵ Strangely enough, despite these opinions, Lewes received its charter the very next year.

In the report of the Commissioners, the right of the lords of the borough to appoint two high constables upon the presentation of the leet jury was the only power recorded as remaining to them. The duties of the constables were then summarized as being to call and attend public meetings, to keep up the public walks and pleasure-gardens, to repair borough property, and to pave the town.⁴⁶ They held the title-deeds of borough property, paid the town clerk, and met other borough expenses, besides being the returning officers.⁴⁷

Local agitation in favour of incorporation had apparently been growing for about ten years and resulted in November 1880 in the presentation of a petition to the Privy Council. There was later considerable publicity in the local press, and inquiries were made from such boroughs as Chichester, Guildford, and Hertford as to their rates. The town records and the history of the borough from the 6th century [*sic*] were investigated; a movement in the Cliffe against inclusion in the projected borough also developed. In May 1881 the draft charter was approved and the charter of incorporation was finally sealed on 17 June.⁴⁸ By the charter a constitution of a mayor, six aldermen, and eighteen councillors was set up; the last senior constable, E. Wynne Baxter, who had been active in working for incorporation, became the first mayor of Lewes.

The town was divided into the three wards in 1894, and the powers and extent of the borough were increased and the wards reallocated into their present divisions of Bridge Ward, Castle Ward, and Priory Ward, in 1934, under the East Sussex Review Order. The borough now returns two County Councillors to the East Sussex County Council from the electoral divisions of Lewes Bridge and Castle, and Lewes Priory.

Our ignorance of the actual constitutional powers of the independent Norman borough obscures also the origins of the courts. The lord's court at Lewes, held every three weeks⁴⁹ to which the free tenants of Lewes barony or lordship owed suit,⁵⁰ was a court for the rape as a whole. Two rolls of this court, described as '*curia castri de Lewes*' have survived.⁵¹ A plea of trespass was removed from it in 1266, because the burgesses of the town came and successfully requested that the plea should be heard before them '*in porchiam eorum*'.⁵² This court of the castle is presumably comparable to the barony court of the gate of the castle of Pevensey.⁵³ John Rowe gives a list of 32 suitors to the barony court in early Stuart times.⁵⁴ It is not known how long this court continued to function; it is only important in the history of the borough as bringing trade and visitors to Lewes when it met.

At the time of the partition of the lordship, in 1439, the courts were 'a view of frankpledge at Michaelmas, a court called the Court of the Town, and a court called the Court of Barony held there every three weeks'.⁵⁵ The court held for 'Lewes Burgus' was sometimes called that of 'the manor of Lewes Burgus',⁵⁶ and is presumably the 'halimote' referred to in 1498.⁵⁷ Customary tenants held by copy of its rolls from at least 1406,⁵⁸ but the earliest surviving roll dates from 1512.⁵⁹

The records of this court of Lewes borough show that the proceedings were those of a normal manorial court baron.⁶⁰ Here the 'custom of the manor', less often called 'the custom of the borough',⁶¹ was administered;⁶² this is chiefly notable in that no heriots were paid by either freeholders or copyholders *quia infra burgum*.⁶³ The custom of borough English was in force for copyholders, as in other manors of the lordship.⁶⁴ As an 'ancient borough' its

⁴² Town-book, 1813-39.

⁴³ *Parl. Papers*, 1880, xxxi, p. 144.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* clause 54, p. xi.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* clause 58, p. xii.

⁴⁶ The Paving Commissioners set up in 1806 did not hand over to the corporation till Dec. 1881, so presumably they were still primarily responsible for paving.

⁴⁷ *Parl. Papers*, 1880, xxxi.

⁴⁸ The details are from the Borough Fund Account 1880-1, in the possession of the Corporation. The total cost in connexion with the petition, inquiries, and grant of the charter was £665 3s. 1d.

⁴⁹ e.g. *Cal. Inq. p.m.* vii, no. 49 (1 Edw. III). Cf. *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 78.

⁵⁰ e.g. *Cal. Inq. p.m.* i, no. 711 (53 Hen. III); *ibid.* ii, p. 361 (14 Edw. I); *ibid.* vi, no. 171 (12 Edw. II). Copyholders did not owe this service: *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 78.

⁵¹ One roll for 50 Hen. III, another for 30-1 Edw. III (Bdle. A, Norfolk muniments).

⁵² *Ibid.* 50 Hen. III, m. 10. It is impossible to deduce anything definite from this isolated reference, but it certainly

suggests something in the nature of a gild court.

⁵³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlii, 186.

⁵⁴ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 193; cf. *ibid.* 78.

⁵⁵ *Mins. Accts.* 1120, no. 2; cf. *Cal. Pat.* 1441-6, pp. 350-1.

⁵⁶ *Supra*, p. 25.

⁵⁷ *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 66.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.* 68.

⁵⁹ Court Rolls (P.R.O.), 206/7 (4 Hen. VIII); this roll also includes a membrane dealing with Brighton. The surviving

Abergavenny Court-books (cited here as *Aber. Coll.*), deposited with the Sussex Archaeological Society, date from 1597; they are similar in content to the earlier roll, but include the proceedings of the courts of all the manors in the Abergavenny portion of the lordship and include 'Lewes Burgus' intermittently. The general series of these court-books continues till 1817 (*Aber. Coll.* xvii), but the volumes after that for 1693-1710 (*ibid.* vii) do not include the court baron of Lewes borough. Two separate volumes, however, survive for 1720-96 (*ibid.* xlviii) and 1796-1824 (*ibid.* xlix), dealing entirely with Lewes. The books from 1824-

1925 are with Messrs. Williams and James, of London, while others dating from 1607 are in the custody of Messrs. Hunt, Nicholson, and Adams, of Lewes. A single court, and apparently a single series of rolls, was kept for the three lords, by the steward of Lord Abergavenny, who held the moiety. John Rowe, as steward of Lord Abergavenny, had access to earlier court-books than now survive.

⁶⁰ e.g. *Aber. Coll.* vi, 107 (1679), *ibid.* vii (21 Oct. 1699), &c.

⁶¹ The phrase 'custom of the borough' does not usually appear in the Court-books, but is frequently used, as is also 'custom of the town' in the bailiff's accounts for 1408 (*Suss. N. & Q.* v).

⁶² The customs of the manors of the lordship are described in *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 77-85, and the proofs are detailed, often with specific reference to Lewes Borough, *ibid.* 86-92.

⁶³ *Aber. Coll.* i, xlviii, &c., *passim*; cf. *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 8, 90.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.* 86-8; Minutes of Courts, 1787-1800 (Lewes Corporation), a reference to 'the youngest son and customary heir'.

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burgesses had the typical borough prerogative of free devise.⁶⁵

The stewards of the lords presided in the court baron, and their bailiffs were also present;⁶⁶ sometimes three stewards were present, sometimes only one.⁶⁷ The court theoretically met every three weeks,⁶⁸ but only two courts a year are normally recorded upon the rolls, though the number fluctuated;⁶⁹ these were perhaps the semi-annual courts at which alone the freeholders were bound to appear;⁷⁰ other courts, however, might be held by adjournment.⁷¹ A distinction gradually grew up between the special courts summoned at the request of some individual,⁷² and the general courts.⁷³ At the end of the 18th century, one general court appears to have been normally held each year about 1 October, and another often early in January.⁷⁴ A list of some 90 free tenants and some 40 customary tenants, of whom some 15 tenants held both free and customary tenements, survives for 1624;⁷⁵ in September 1600 over 80 free tenants, and some 11 customary tenants, defaulted.⁷⁶ The perquisites of the courts were divided between the lords.⁷⁷ This court was still functioning in 1824,⁷⁸ and probably much later.

By deed dated 1 January 1927 Reginald William, Marquess of Abergavenny, Herbrand Edward Dundonald Brassey, Earl de la Warr, and Gwendolen Mary, Duchess of Norfolk, as lords of the borough appointed the Hon. Richard Plantagenet Nevill, William Edward Nicholson, and the Duchess of Norfolk as trustees of the borough. This was to comply with the requirements of the Law of Property Act 1925 in regard to joint property. The deed applied to the borough (manorial rights) and so much of Lewes Castle as had not previously been sold, i.e. the Brack Mount and one or two small pieces of land. Under the provisions of the same Act these manorial rights will come to an end in 1940.

The view of frankpledge was held in 'the court of the borough' by the mid-14th century,⁷⁹ and at Michaelmas 1371,⁸⁰ the view of frankpledge was taken, offences such as assaults, refusal to serve on the watch,⁸¹ selling by false measures, selling unwholesome food, using

unsealed bushels, or putting rubbish and offal on the high roads, were dealt with; presentments were made by ale-tasters, and fines taken from those who *tenent cappelboth*. The proceedings of this court produced £19 11s. 9d., of which 13s. 2d. fell to the Archbishop of Canterbury and 30s. 9d. to the Prior of Lewes. At subsequent courts the offences included selling under weight, selling wool by *le aunser*; and the business consisted chiefly of pleas of debt and a few cases of assault. Six courts in all are recorded on the roll. The borough court already had a dual character, the ordinary court for civil business, and the special sessions at Michaelmas for the view of frankpledge, often called lawdays, which gradually acquired the new title of court-leet. The jury of the leet, together with the constables and headboroughs, became, as we have seen, increasingly the governing body of the town. At the Michaelmas lawday and at the adjourned leet held a fortnight afterwards, which became known by the late 18th century, if not earlier,⁸² as the affairing day, the prerogative of the lords is clearly shown. At the earlier of these two annual courts in Tudor times the elder constable was chosen by seniority from the Fellowship of the Twelve, while the younger was chosen by the elder with the consent of the jury; here the headboroughs and other minor officials were chosen by the constables 'without any contradiction or alteration by the stewards'.⁸³ At the second court the accounts of the outgoing constables were viewed and they handed over the town's property to the incoming constables. By the late 18th century things had changed. At the first court the Jury presented certain selected names, usually 'eight in all', as possible constables and headboroughs; from these the steward chose two to act as constables and two as headboroughs.⁸⁴ They were then sworn in by the steward.⁸⁵ Similarly with the other officials at the adjourned court or affairing day.⁸⁶ Little is known of the process by which earlier practice was superseded by this later procedure.⁸⁷

The three-weekly courts of the borough are never apparent in the town-books: they presumably fell gradu-

⁶⁵ e.g. Suss. Arch. Soc. Deeds, D. 479 (1693). For an account of free devise see M. Bateson, *Borough Customs* (Seld. Soc. iv), 243-4. In 1365 it was argued that Lewes was an 'ancient borough' and that all tenements in the said borough were devisable and, by the immemorial custom of the borough, men and boys of 15 years of age and more could devise their lands (Ass. R. 942, m. 2). The case was subsequently removed before the king (Coram Rege R. 444, m. 48, Jan. 1372). There is no evidence that the right of devise pertained only to 'acquired' tenements, as at Chichester.

⁶⁶ Aber. Coll. i, 27, shows the presence of the stewards; *ibid.* xlviii *passim* shows clearly that the stewards actually presided. The bailiffs' names are given at the head of the entry for each court; they are often described as 'bailiffs of the barony'. The stewards authorized the actual copies, e.g. Suss. Arch. Soc. Deeds A. 178 (1654); *ibid.* A. 463 (1739).

⁶⁷ Minutes of courts 1787-1800 (Lewes Corporation).

⁶⁸ e.g. lands were granted from the lord's waste in 1609 on the condition of suit 'to the court of the manor' every 3 weeks: Aber. Coll. i, 164 d.

⁶⁹ Thus there were two courts in 1599, in April and August (Aber. Coll. i, 27),

in 1600, in September and December (*ibid.* 41, 52), in 1610, in March and May (*ibid.* 185, 241). In 1601, 1602, 1605, 1606, and 1608 no courts are here recorded. In 1603 and 1607 one court is recorded (*ibid.* 82, 135 d) and three courts are recorded for 1604 (*ibid.* 95 d, 96 d) and 1609 (*ibid.* 159 d, 164 d, 165 d, courts held in August, September, and October).

⁷⁰ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 78, a paragraph dealing with the manors of the barony as a whole, and not with the borough only.

⁷¹ e.g. Aber. Coll. vi, 162.

⁷² An early instance of a special court is in 1692: Aber. Coll. vi, 195; cf. *ibid.* vii, 68 (1712).

⁷³ *Ibid.* xlix, 120 v (1806). Cf. Minutes of Courts, 1787-1800, *passim* (Lewes Corporation).

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

⁷⁵ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 8-14.

⁷⁶ Aber. Coll. i, 42 d.

⁷⁷ e.g. Suss. N. & Q. v, 99.

⁷⁸ Suss. Arch. Soc. Deeds, D.R. 178 (1820); Aber. Coll. xlix (1824). Cf. Add. MS. 39472 (Dunkin Collection), extracts from court rolls in private possession, which contains an entry for 1834 (p. 127 v.).

⁷⁹ Earl John de Warenne claimed of immemorial custom and was allowed view of frankpledge, the assize of bread

and ale, &c., throughout the whole rape of Lewes, in 1274: *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 751.

⁸⁰ Norfolk Muniments B. The first membrane is barely legible, but the third membrane is clearly headed.

⁸¹ Robert Cakrebed '*est rebellus erga constabul' et ministr' domini Regis ad vigili'*'.

⁸² The 'Firing day at night' mentioned in Oct. 1635, when a certain Mr. Seager was ordered to enter the constables' accounts, 'who did forget it', is presumably an isolated early occasion of the use of the word: Town-book, i, fol. 66. Affairing comes from affeer, to assess.

⁸³ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 120.

⁸⁴ Aber. Coll. lviii (Court Leet Book for Lewes Borough, 1774-1878), *passim*.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.* Yet in 1880 it was stated that the headboroughs took no oaths of office: *Parl. Papers*, 1880 (Rep. Com.), xxxi.

⁸⁶ Aber. Coll. lviii, *passim*.

⁸⁷ A change in the form of the record of the law day in the town-books is evident in 1773, when the headings for the first time give the name of the steward who was holding the court (Town-book, 1740-1813, fol. 40). The appointment of minor officials at the affairing day, instead of at the Michaelmas court, is first recorded in the town-books in 1801: *ibid.* 116; cf. 122 (1803).

ally into disuse. In 1833 it could be observed that there were in Lewes no courts of record peculiar to the borough,⁸⁸ while in 1880 it was specifically stated that the administration of justice was done exclusively by the magistrates of the county, at petty sessions, held by them in Lewes weekly.⁸⁹

Lewes is an ancient borough *PARLIAMENTARY* by prescription and the right of voting was, until the Reform

HISTORY Bill of 1832, in those inhabitants of the borough paying scot and lot, with the two constables as returning officers.⁹⁰ The franchise was therefore restricted down to 1832 to inhabitants of the parishes of All Saints and St. Michael, that were wholly in the borough, and to the small sections of the parishes of Saint John-sub-Castro and St. Peter and St. Mary Westout, *alias* St. Anne's, that were inside the borough boundary.⁹¹ The parish of St. John the Baptist, Southover, lay entirely without the boundary and so had no voice in elections down to 1832.⁹² The Boundary Commissioners of 1831-2 found that the approximate number of houses in the borough qualifying for voting was 639.⁹³ The commission proposed to create a wider boundary for the town of Lewes, taking in more of St. John-sub-Castro and St. Anne, as well as parts of Southover, St. Thomas-in-the-Cliff, and South Malling, and increasing the qualifying houses by about 193.⁹⁴

Lewes returned two members to the parliament of 1295⁹⁵ and continued to send two members⁹⁶ until, by the Representation of the People Act of 1867, the number was reduced to one.⁹⁷ In 1885, when Sussex was divided into six divisions, the greater part of Lewes went into the Mid or Lewes Division, which returned one member.⁹⁸ A further rearrangement was made in 1918, when one of the four members for the administrative county of East Sussex was allotted to the Lewes Division, which consists of the rural districts of Chailey, Newhaven, and Steyning East, the municipal borough of Lewes, and the urban districts of Newhaven, Portslade-by-Sea, and Seaford.⁹⁹

John Cayme, or Kyme, a member for Lewes in 1543, was paid 63s. in wages:¹ and the two members William Devenish and Thomas Gravesend together received £6 10s. in 1554.²

The names of prominent local landowners begin to appear among the list of members for Lewes from the time of Mary, and especially under Elizabeth,³ and

the first notice of contested elections occurs in 1627 when the rival candidates were Sir George Goring, Anthony Stapley, and Sir George Rivers.⁴ Later in the century the family of Pelham had great influence in Lewes and county elections generally, through their land-holdings in Sussex. Pelhams were returned for Lewes at frequent intervals from 1679 to 1790,⁵ and their connexions by marriage also figure in the list.⁶ Pelham influence was strongest under Thomas Pelham, later Pelham-Holles, Lord Pelham of Laughton and, from 1715, Duke of Newcastle,⁷ whose methods are revealed in his correspondence, now in the British Museum.⁸

'From time whereof *MARKETS AND FAIRS* the memory of man is not to the contrary' down to 1791, the lords of the borough owned a market in Lewes, which might be held every day except Sunday, for the sale of foodstuffs, china, glass, earthenware, and other necessities; they appointed the Clerk of the Market and took the tolls.⁹ Reference has already been made to the importance of Lewes as a market centre at the time of the Conquest.¹⁰ In about 1089 William II de Warenne gave to the monks of St. Pancras, Lewes, the right of pre-emption, after the lord's needs had been satisfied, in this daily market 'of flesh and fish and all other things which they wish and require to buy for their own needs or those of their guests'.¹¹ Presumably the early markets were held near the church of St. Mary-in-Foro, but in 1564 a market-house was built at a cost of £20, half from a bequest by Mrs. Alice Holter¹² and the rest contributed by 'The Twelve' of the borough.¹³ This lay in the High Street at the south-west corner of the road leading to the Castle Gateway:¹⁴ it was rebuilt in 1649¹⁵ and removed in 1791.¹⁶

Besides the daily provision market, a general market on Saturday is mentioned in 1440¹⁷ and as late as 1792.¹⁸ The daily market had apparently lapsed, as at a public meeting on 20 May 1789 it was resolved: 'That a General Market for all kinds of Provisions and other marketable Commodities, to be held every day (except Sunday) will be for the general good of the Town'.¹⁹ A committee of householders was empowered to stake out a site for the market-place in the Castle Yard and treat for its purchase.²⁰ The site first chosen was part of the copyhold tenement of Robert Chester Cooper, 'situate on the north-west side of the Castle Inn

⁸⁸ Town-book, 1813-39.

⁸⁹ *Parl. Papers*, 1880 (Rep. Com.), xxxi.

⁹⁰ *Parl. Papers*, 1831-2, xl, 55; *Commons Journals*, i, 877 (1628); *ibid.* xxii, 616 (1735).

⁹¹ *Parl. Papers*, 1831-2, xl, 55 and map.

⁹² *Ibid.* Though a draft agreement dated 2 Feb. 1553, between the constables and inhabitants of Lewes and those of Southover, arranged that Southover should take part in the election of one member at every alternate election: Horsfield, *Lewes*, App. v.

⁹³ *Parl. Papers*, 1831-2, xl, 56.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.* Making 832 in all. See map.

⁹⁵ *Return of M.P.s*, i, 6.

⁹⁶ Except to the first parliament of the Commonwealth, when one member was returned: *ibid.* 502. There is no return for the 1656 parliament: *ibid.* 505. Lewes is known to have returned members in 1543 and 1544: William Durrant Cooper, *Parly. Hist. of Sussex* (1834), 24; *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 125.

⁹⁷ *Ibid.* 486. The boundaries of the

parliamentary borough were enlarged at this time.

⁹⁸ Redistribution of Seats Act: Stanford, *Parliamentary County Atlas* (1885), 236-7; Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934), 412. The rest of Lewes was merged into the Southern, or Eastbourne, Division.

⁹⁹ Kelly, *op. cit.*, 4.

¹ Cooper, *Parly. Hist. of Suss.*, 24.

² *Ibid.* citing Horsfield, *Lewes*, App. xxxix; *Ret. of M.P.s*, i, 394.

³ These were Goring, Sackville, Bellingham, etc.: Cooper, *op. cit.* 27.

⁴ *Ibid.* 24. And see further for subsequent elections down to 1832.

⁵ *Ibid.* 27.

⁶ See Basil Williams, 'The Duke of Newcastle and the Election of 1734', *Eng. Hist. Rev.* xii (1897), 448 et seq.

⁷ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ix, 530.

⁸ *Eng. Hist. Rev.* xii, loc. cit., from Add. MSS. 32686 et seq., and especially 32688 for Lewes.

⁹ Public Act, 31 Geo. III, cap. 86 (1791). In 1276 the tolls of the tenants of the Archbishop of Canterbury at markets and fairs of Lewes were worth 8 marks: *Cal. Misc. Inq.* i, 1029. See *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 186, 188, 189 for division of market rights with the barony in 1483.

¹⁰ See above, p. 14.

¹¹ *Lewes Chart.* i, 7-9.

¹² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xliii, 127.

¹³ Town-book, i, fols. 12, 13; *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 122, 124; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvi, 189.

¹⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 17; lxiii, 533 (old map of 1620).

¹⁵ Town-book, i, fol. 80.

¹⁶ See below.

¹⁷ *Mins. Accts.* (P.R.O.), 1120, no. 2.

¹⁸ *Parl. Papers*, 1888, liii, 213. Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvii, 189.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* xl, 254, from *Sussex Weekly Advertiser and Lewes Journal*.

²⁰ *Ibid.* 255. The reference is to the yard of the Castle Inn.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

or Publick House within the Precinct of the Castle . . . containing from East to West 50 feet and from South to North 108 feet,²¹ and in 1791 by Act of Parliament Commissioners appointed from the borough were permitted to erect a new market, there or elsewhere, to replace the old prescriptive one, the lords of the borough, however, retaining their right to elect the Clerk of the Market, though losing their right to the tolls, which were vested in the Commissioners.²² This body was empowered to pull down the old market, leaving an open space "for the better accommodating of persons passing to the new market or elsewhere".²³ Eventually three houses adjoining the Crown Inn were bought from Lord Hampden and pulled down to provide a site for the new market. The old Town Bell, Gabriel, taken from the tower of the 'Broken' Church of St. Nicholas, was in 1792 hung in a tower at the entrance of the new market-place, the hall of which was built in the following year.²⁴

This general market was sold by the Commissioners in 1886 to the corporation.²⁵ By 1929 it was leased by the East Sussex Federation of Women's Institutes for the benefit of small producers of garden produce, poultry, eggs, and foodstuffs.²⁶

In 1789 the inhabitants of Lewes resolved that a market for live-stock twice a month would be for the general good of the town.²⁷ A cattle market was held in the streets of Lewes, causing 'obstruction, danger and inconvenience', until 1879, when the Lewes Cattle Market Company was incorporated to provide a site near the railway station for a cattle market.²⁸ In 1835 this stock-market was being held every alternate Tuesday.²⁹ It is now held every Monday.³⁰

There was a market for corn in Lewes at least by 1630,³¹ and proposals were made in 1648 to remove this to another site.³² The present Corn Exchange was built in 1893.³³ It is owned by the Corporation of Lewes and a market is held weekly on Tuesdays.³⁴

A fair in the week of Whitsun is mentioned in 1440,³⁵ and was evidently still held in 1483.³⁶ This was presumably the origin of the Whit-Tuesday cattle fair which occurs from at least 1744³⁷ to 1835,³⁸ but was no longer held by 1888,³⁹ when, however, there was a cattle fair on 6 May, which makes its first appearance in 1757.⁴⁰ An annual sale of cattle is still held in May.⁴¹ A fair for sheep and cattle, held on 21 September, evidently existed in 1720,⁴² but it is not mentioned again until 1757, when it reappears on the equivalent date of 2 October.⁴³ From 1827⁴⁴

there were sheep fairs on both 21 September and 2 October, but the latter date had been altered to 28 September by 1888.⁴⁵ There are now four special sales of sheep held between July and September.

There is evidence that a wool fair was held at Lewes on 26 July in 1792.⁴⁶ This does not appear in Rider's list of fairs until 1832,⁴⁷ but in 1835 was mentioned a summer wool fair of which the late Earl of Sheffield (died 1821)⁴⁸ had for many years been patron.⁴⁹ It is now held on or about 20 July,⁵⁰ in the Corn Exchange, and is the only wool sale in Sussex.⁵¹ Lewes had been in the 13th century an active seat of the wool trade,⁵² and in the later years of the next century was a subsidiary staple for the export of wool.⁵³ Appointments of tronagers, or weighers, of wool for the port of Lewes are recorded between 1382 and 1389;⁵⁴ but the trade decayed, and in 1498 the tronage and customs of wool in the borough yielded nothing 'because no merchants came there this year'.⁵⁵

The town was never an important industrial centre, its inhabitants being largely concerned with agriculture.⁵⁶ It is interesting to note that in the 17th century certain goldsmiths, possibly the Dodsons, were producing silver spoons bearing the touch, or local mark, of the arms of Lewes.⁵⁷ The vogue of Lewes as a residential and marketing centre made brewing a profitable industry⁵⁸ and led to the establishment of a good many inns. Of these in 1765 the chief were The Star and The White Hart, but the White Horse, Dog, White Lion, Ship, Castle, Dolphin, Crown, and Lewes Arms, as well as two coffee houses (Verrall's and the Bridge) were sufficiently important to receive their share of custom at the time of the election in that year.⁵⁹ A bank was founded by George Whitfield in 1789 and flourished until 1896, when it was merged in Barclay's.⁶⁰ During the Napoleonic Wars ironworks near the bridge were turning out ordnance,⁶¹ and their successors, the Phoenix Ironworks, were active during the war of 1914-18, as well as in more normal times. Ship-building was carried on here between 1839 and 1866, but seems to have ceased in the latter year.^{61a}

By the Grateley decree of c. 930 Lewes *MINT* was the only borough in Sussex, and one of the few in England, to be allowed two moneyers.⁶² Coins of this period, the reign of Æthelstan, from the Lewes mint bear the names of Eadric and Wilebald, each striking a different type.⁶³ Under Edgar and Edward the Martyr, also, two moneyers

²¹ Public Act. 31 Geo. III, cap. 86, sections i, vi; Town-book, ii, fol. 68.

²² Town-book, ii, fols. 68, 69, 71 v, 72, 75; Public Act. 31 Geo. III, cap. 86.

²³ Ibid. sect. xiii, xiv; cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xl, 255.

²⁴ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 215.

²⁵ *Parl. Papers*, 1890-1, xxxix, 940-7.

²⁶ Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, *Markets and Fairs*, iv (1929), 88, 91.

²⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xl, 254; Town-book, ii, 69.

²⁸ Private Act. 42 Vict. cap. 28.

²⁹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 217.

³⁰ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934), *Markets and Fairs*, iv (1929), 87, 90, 91.

³¹ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1625-49, 394.

³² Town-book, i, fol. 79 v.

³³ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934), 413.

³⁴ *Markets and Fairs*, iv (1929), 87, 91.

³⁵ *Mins. Accts.* (P.R.O.), 1120, no. 2.

³⁶ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 186.

³⁷ Cardanus Rider, *British Merlin*, 1744.

³⁸ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 217.

³⁹ *Parl. Papers*, 1888, liii, 213.

⁴⁰ Rider, op. cit. 1757. It had been held from 1754 to 1756 at Cliffe: *ibid. sub annis*.

⁴¹ *Markets and Fairs*, iv (1929), 90.

⁴² 'The Marchant Diary', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 187.

⁴³ Rider, op. cit.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

⁴⁵ *Parl. Papers*, 1888, liii, 213.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* (from Owen's *New Book of Fairs*). Cf. Lewis, *Topog. Dict.* (1831).

⁴⁷ *British Merlin*.

⁴⁸ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vii, 123-4.

⁴⁹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 217.

⁵⁰ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934), 6.

⁵¹ *Markets and Fairs*, iv (1929), 90.

⁵² *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 166-9.

⁵³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxv, 133.

⁵⁴ *Cal. Pat.* 1381-5, pp. 99, 102; *ibid.* 1385-9, p. 47; *ibid.* 1388-92, p. 93.

⁵⁵ *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 98.

⁵⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxviii, 215.

⁵⁷ *Suss. N. & Q.* vi, 85.

⁵⁸ Breweries in Lewes and Southover occur in a number of transfers of property in the 17th and 18th centuries.

⁵⁹ Add. MS. 33059, fol. 46.

⁶⁰ *Hist. of Barclay's Bank*, 192-7; *Suss. Co. Mag.* vi, 249. There was already a bank in Lewes, controlled by Thomas Harben, but this seems to have been taken over about 1793 by the New (afterwards 'Old') Bank: *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 255.

⁶¹ Barfoot and Wilkes, *Brit. Directory*, iii, 747. Henry of Lewes, the master smith employed at Westminster Palace and the Abbey from 1253 onwards, owned property in Lewes when he died in 1291.

Suss. Co. Mag. xiii, 52-3.

^{61a} *Ibid.* 174-8.

⁶² G. C. Brooke, *Engl. Coins*, 56.

⁶³ *Ibid.* 59, 60.

are known,⁶⁴ one, Theodgar, occurring in both reigns and also under Æthelred II, whose coinage yields the names of eight other moneyers, most of whom continued under Cnut and Edward the Confessor, three of them also striking coins for Harold II.⁶⁵ One of the only two gold pieces known between 979 and 1066 was found at Hellingly in 1808 and was struck from a Lewes die for a penny of Æthelred II.⁶⁶ The Domesday Survey shows that when new dies were issued each moneyer had to pay 20s., but this had apparently been raised since the Conquest to a total of 112s.⁶⁷ The pennies of William I and II bear the names of five moneyers, of whom Oswold had been employed since the reign of Æthelred⁶⁸ and continued into that of Henry I, when four other names are found.⁶⁹ The Lewes mint was active under Stephen, five names being recorded,⁷⁰ but for the new coinage of Henry II introduced in 1158, although Lewes was the only Sussex mint, only the name of Wulwine is known.⁷¹ In 1159 the sheriff of Sussex accounted for £10 due from the mint, or moneyer (*monet*), of Lewes (for the new dies); £5 13s. 4d. was paid,⁷² and next year Wulwine the moneyer paid another 6s;⁷³ in 1163 he paid 18d.,⁷⁴ but within the next four years he had evidently ceased work, as in 1168 the sheriff reported that Wulfwin the moneyer owed 79s. 2d., 'but he can not be found'.⁷⁵

A very small part of the parish of **PARISHES ST. JOHN-SUB-CASTRO**, including the church, lay within the borough of Lewes; the greatest part extended in a north-westerly direction, bounded on the east by the parish of Hamsey, which intersected it at one point.⁷⁶ This land outside the borough boundaries, known as **ST. JOHN WITHOUT**, with Hamsey, formed Southborough, one of the three divisions of the hundred of Barcombe (q.v.).⁷⁷ In 1894 St. John Without was formed into a separate civil parish,⁷⁸ and in 1934 part of the detached portion of this parish was added to Hamsey (q.v.).⁷⁹

Within the ecclesiastical parish of St. John-sub-Castro was the chapelry of Allington, first mentioned at the end of the 12th century when the chapel was confirmed by Bishop Seffrid II of Chichester to St. Pancras priory.⁸⁰

This extra-burgal part of St. John's parish **MANORS** was presumably contained in the Domesday **ALLINGTON**, in Barcombe hundred, to which pertained in all five haws in Lewes.⁸¹ From at least 1578 to 1602, however, Allington was reckoned as part of Hamsey.⁸² Before the Conquest 6 hides in Allington were held of King Edward by Ulward, and 2 hides by Eddeva. In 1086 Ralph de Chesney held the 6 hides of William de Warenne, 2 of them being held of him by Warner and Osmund. The other 2 hides

were held of William by Hugh son of Golda, the lord of the neighbouring manor of Warningore, and half a virgate was held by Nigel.⁸³ Ralph de Chesney's son Ralph gave a hide of land at Allington to St. Pancras, Lewes, for the soul of his father. Hugh's wife Basilia, mother of their son Ralph, also gave to the monastery the tithe of a hide of their land.⁸⁴

By 1240 a manor of **ALLINGTON** was held in demesne by the overlord, Earl Warenne,⁸⁵ and continued to descend with the rape, falling to the share of John Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, in 1439.⁸⁶ It was divided among his four coheirs in 1483, but was subsequently held in moieties by the Duke of Norfolk and the Earl of Derby.⁸⁷

In 1547, after the attainder of Thomas Howard, 3rd Duke of Norfolk, his moiety of the manor was granted by Edward VI to Thomas, Lord Seymour, the king's uncle.⁸⁸ He was attainted and executed in 1549.⁸⁹ In 1553 his 'manor' was granted to Sir Richard Sackville.⁹⁰ This transaction was confirmed in 1559 by Thomas, 4th Duke of Norfolk, who sold 'the manor' to Sir Richard for £900.⁹¹

The other moiety was conveyed in 1576 by Henry, Earl of Derby, to Sir Thomas, Lord Buckhurst and later 1st Earl of Dorset,⁹² son and heir of Sir Richard Sackville;⁹³ so that henceforth the undivided manor of Allington descended with the Sackvilles, Earls of Dorset,⁹⁴ until the death of Richard, Earl of Dorset, in 1624, when it was apportioned to his eldest daughter Margaret, who married John Tufton, Earl of Thanet. It was thereafter held by the earls until 1722, when Thomas, Earl of Thanet, sold Allington for £3,340 to



TUFTON, Earl of Thanet.
Sable an eagle ermine
and a border argent.



MEDLEY. Argent two
gimpel-bars with three
pierced molets in the chief
all sable.

Thomas Medley.⁹⁵ His eldest son Thomas in 1729 placed it in trust for his children, and it was delivered in 1753 to his son George Medley,⁹⁶ who was still holding it in 1793.⁹⁷ On the death of Thomas Medley in 1796 his estates passed through his daughter Annabella wife of John Evelyn, to her daughter Julia Shuckburgh-Evelyn,⁹⁸ and in turn to Julia's daughter Julia Evelyn wife of Cecil Charles Cope Jenkinson,

⁶⁴ Ibid. 63, 64.

⁶⁵ Ibid. 73.

⁶⁷ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 435.

⁶⁸ Brooke, op. cit. 84.

⁶⁹ Ibid. 89.

⁷¹ Ibid. 113.

⁷² *Pipe R. Soc.* i, 61.

⁷³ Ibid. ii, 56.

⁷⁴ Ibid. vi, 13.

⁷⁵ Ibid. xii, 193.

⁷⁶ *Parl. Papers*, 1831-2, xl, 55 et seq. and map; Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 208; Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934), 412.

⁷⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 135-6.

⁷⁸ *Place-Names, Suss.* ii, 321.

⁷⁹ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934), 318, 412.

⁸⁰ Charter printed in *Suss. N. & Q.* ii,

252. The site of the chapel can still be traced near Allington Farm: *ex inf.* F. Bentham Stevens.

⁸¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 443a, viz. 1 haw to the 6 hides of Ralph de Chesney and 4 to the 2 hides of Hugh son of Golda.

⁸² *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 135-6.

⁸³ *V.C.H. Sussex*, i, 443. Cf. Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 313-15, 319, 334, 345-6.

⁸⁴ *Lewes Chart.* i, 13, 21, 38.

⁸⁵ *Pipe R.* 25 Hen. III, m. 5; cf. *Cal. Pat.* 1313-17, pp. 483, 484, 528.

⁸⁶ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 188.

⁸⁷ See above, pp. 5-7.

⁸⁸ *Cal. Pat. Edw. VI*, i, 27.

⁸⁹ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁹⁰ *Cal. Pat. Edw. VI*, v, 112, 178.

⁹¹ Close R. 2 Eliz. pt. iii.

⁹² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 63; *Cal. Portman Deeds*, Lewes, 121.

⁹³ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁹⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 335-7; xix, 73; xx, 494, and 303. In the early 17th century the demesnes were leased to the family of Comber, who also held a copyhold called Allington Court: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlix, 147-52.

⁹⁵ *Cal. Misc. Coll. C.* 90 (Lewes); Add. MS. 5681, fol. 30; *Cal. Portman Deeds*, Lewes, 120, 122.

⁹⁶ Add. MS. 5681, fol. 30.

⁹⁷ Ibid., fol. 31; *Portman Deeds*, Lewes, 742. ⁹⁸ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iii, 63.

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later Earl of Liverpool, who after her death (1814) held courts of the manor until his own death in 1851.⁹⁹ In 1851-5 courts were held by Francis Vernon Harcourt (who had married Lady Katherine Julia Jenkinson), Selina, dowager Viscountess Milton and wife of George Saville Foljambe (another daughter), and John Cotes (husband of the third daughter, Lady Louisa Harriet Jenkinson).¹ The manor was sold in 1856 by Mr. Vernon Harcourt and his wife to Sir Henry Shiffner, 2nd baronet, who died without issue in 1859, when the property passed to his brother George.² Allington has remained in his family, and is now the property of Sir Henry Burrows Shiffner, the 7th baronet. The custom of Borough English obtained in this manor.³

Richard de Thornwell and Alice his wife in 1279 granted to Ralph de Radmelde land and pasture in Hamsey and Allington.⁴ In 1314, when Robert Affete of Allington gave 2 messuages and 15 acres there to Robert le Husiere of Firlre and Denise his wife, John de Rademelde put in his claim.⁵ In 1341 John de Parys and Margaret his wife, widow of John de Rademelde, were sued by William de Rademelde for waste in the third part of a manor of *ALLINGTON* which they held as dower of Margaret, in pulling down a hall and chamber and cutting down fruit trees.⁶ No more is heard of this manor.

East Allington is first mentioned in 1328 when Richard atte Ok conveyed to Ralph atte Ok one messuage and 20 acres of land for life.⁷ A manor of Allington, later called *EAST ALLINGTON*, was in the possession of Walter Fawkenor in 1567.⁸ He was succeeded in 1582 by Thomas Fawkenor,⁹ who died in 1613, leaving the manor to his daughter Anne the wife of Arthur Middleton,¹⁰ and they were still holding it in 1630.¹¹ Francis Middleton son of Arthur inherited it before 1659,¹² and his son John's daughter Frances married Robert Day and was in possession of East Allington in 1751.¹³ Court House, in St. John's parish, may have been the manor house.¹⁴

In 1241 Roger de Wimples remitted to Aumfrid de Feringes and Isabel his wife the service of 15s. for one hide in Allington held of him by them.¹⁵ This probably refers to West Allington. Richard atte Beche had land in 'Westeralyngton' in 1325;¹⁶ and in 1474 Joan Beche and Agnes, then wife of William Stent, daughters and coheirs of John Beche, conveyed their shares of 110 acres of land in West Allington to their sister Anne and her husband William Breche.¹⁷

The 'borough' of *WESTOUT*, which lay just out-

side the west gate of Lewes, contained the two parishes of St. Peter and St. Mary¹⁸ (see below). It was one of the three 'boroughs' of Swanborough Hundred from at least 1296¹⁹ down, apparently, to 1861, when the court leet was summoned to meet on Easter Monday, 9 April, at the Running Horse Inn in what was by then the parish of St. Anne's, Westout.²⁰ By the beginning of the 17th century half the common fine of Westout was payable by the Earl of Dorset out of divers lands that he had bought;²¹ the rest was levied on the inhabitants and on the lands of William Lane.²²

In 1571 Richard Covert conveyed to George and Stephen Board what was described as a manor of *WESTOUT* with appurtenances in Chailey and Lancing.²³ In 1755 Joseph Chapman and Catherine his wife possessed $\frac{1}{2}$ manor of Westout.²⁴ Catherine was evidently a co-heiress of Francis Hammond of Mayfield, and was dead by 1769, when Joseph Chapman, together with Mary Woolven of Mayfield, widow (surviving daughter of Francis Hammond), and Henry Freeman of the Cliffe (son of Elizabeth, another daughter) sold the manor for £20 to John Hammond of Waldron and Richard Hook.²⁵

Two hides of land called Ashcombe in Swanborough Hundred were held of William de Warenne in 1086 by William son of Reinald, and had been held by Cola in the time of King Edward.²⁶

These two hides presumably descended with the other estates of William son of Reinald to the family of Poynings,²⁷ and the manor of *ASHCOMBE* next appears among the possessions of Thomas de Poynings at his death in 1375.²⁸ It descended with the manor of Poynings (q.v.), passing in 1537 to Sir Anthony Browne,²⁹ whose grandson Anthony, Viscount Montagu, died in 1592. The reversion of this manor expectant upon the death of Viscount Montagu had been granted to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, afterwards Earl of Dorset,³⁰ on whose death in 1608 it was found to be held as $\frac{1}{2}$ knight's fee.³¹ It descended through Robert, 2nd Earl,³² to his son, Richard, Earl of Dorset,³³ who in 1617 conveyed to trustees the manors of Ashcombe-Goring and Ashcombe-Montagu among others, to pay his debts.³⁴

Lands called 'The Hyde' near Lewes, and presumably in Westout,³⁵ appear to have been conveyed, c. 1450, by William Brasyer to Thomas Baker, otherwise Sherman, of Lewes.³⁶

In 1566 a manor of *HIDE* was conveyed by John Vaughan and Anne his wife to Francis Kelleway³⁷

⁹⁹ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), viii, 89; Add. MS. 39487, fol. 106.

¹ Ibid.

² *Burke's Peerage*.

³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 179.

⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 885.

⁵ Ibid. xxiii, 1389. Cf. *ibid.* x, 50, 182, 296 for subsidies paid by Robert Affete, 1296-1332.

⁶ De Banco R. 286, m. 135.

⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 1702.

⁸ Add. MS. 39381, fol. 58; *ibid.* 39487, fol. 102. This included 3 messuages, 200 ac. land, and 100 ac. pasture: *Recov. R.* Hil. 9 Eliz. ro. 521.

⁹ Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Lewes), 112.

¹⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccxxviii, 48. It is here said to have been held of the manor of Hamsey.

¹¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 53.

¹² Add. MS. 39381, fol. 52.

¹³ Cal. Misc. Coll. C. 19, Lewes.

¹⁴ *Ex Inf.* F. Bentham Stevens.

¹⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, 398.

¹⁶ Assize R. 938, m. 13 d.

¹⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 3204.

¹⁸ *Pl.-N. Suss.* ii, 320; *Bp. Rede's Register*, ii, 252, 260, 264, 310; *Lewes Chart.* i, 21.

¹⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 48 (Subs.). Cf. *ibid.* 169, 283; Subs. R. 190, no. 274 (1563); *ibid.* no. 309 (1587); *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxiii, 234 (1651). In 1665, however, St. Mary Westout parish was assessed under Lewes borough: Subs. R. 258, no. 18 (Hearth Tax).

²⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 124-5. By 1879 such courts had been discontinued: *ibid.* 123.

²¹ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 140.

²² *Ibid.* 5, 140; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), di, 24.

²³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 317.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 484.

²⁵ Add. MS. 39504, fol. 192 v., citing Close R. 10 Geo. III, pt. vi, no. 14.

²⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 443b; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 327. John de Hachescomb held property in the vill of Westout in 1296, and William de Achescombe in 1327 and 1332: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 48, 169, 283.

²⁷ Farrer, loc. cit. See Poynings below, p. 209.

²⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. 49 Edw. III, 2nd nos. no. 27.

²⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xii (2), g. 1311 (34).

³⁰ Add. MS. 39487, fol. 176, citing Pat. R. 33 Eliz. pt. xii, m. 25 (12 April 1591).

³¹ Ct. of Wards, Inq. p.m. xxxiv, 202.

³² *Ibid.* xliii, 165.

³³ Cf. *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 214.

³⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 412; Ct. of Wards, Inq. p.m. lxxi, 59.

³⁵ Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 2-4.

³⁶ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 54, no. 186.

³⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 196.

and, later in the year, by Francis and his wife Anne to Roger Gratwyck.³⁸ Roger and his wife Mary conveyed it in 1569 to Thomas Sherman.³⁹ Thomas Sherman, Richard Smyth, and Margaret Sherman, widow, conveyed the manor in 1584 to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst,⁴⁰ who as Earl of Dorset held the manor of *HIDE MARES WESTOUT* at his death in 1608,⁴¹ as did his successors⁴² until Edward, Earl of Dorset, conveyed it in 1628 to William Wilson and Richard Isted in part payment of a debt. Richard Amherst of Lewes was a party to this conveyance, releasing thereby an annuity of £30 devised to him for life by Richard, Earl of Dorset, from his Sussex manors.⁴³ This manor must have come into Amherst's possession, since by his will, dated 1630, he bequeathed it to his wife, with reversion to his daughters Margaret and Frances in equal portions.⁴⁴ In 1654 Margaret Colbrond, widow, one of the daughters, with Francis Smith and Margaret his wife, William Wilson, and others, conveyed the manor to William Newton and William Lane.⁴⁵ By his will, dated February 1688, William Lane left the manor of Hide to his son William for life, together with the manor of Meeching (q.v.),⁴⁶ with which it was leased in 1691 by William Lane and Elizabeth his wife to John Smith and Thomas Medley.⁴⁷ Nothing further is heard of this manor.

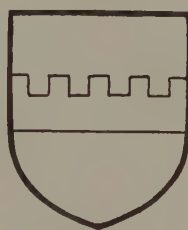
Land in Houndean was held in demesne by Earl Warenne by 1230.⁴⁸ The manor of *HOUNDEAN* is first mentioned in 1240,⁴⁹ and in 1327 it was assessed within the vill of Westout (q.v.) in Swanborough Hundred.⁵⁰ It descended as a demesne manor with the barony (q.v.), passing in 1439 to Edmund Lenthall and forming part of the dower of his widow, Margaret Tresham,⁵¹ after whose death in 1484⁵² it was divided, half going to George, 4th Lord Bergavenny, and the rest to the heirs of Anne Mowbray.⁵³

One-half descended with the Bergavenny portion of the barony⁵⁴ until it was increased, between 1829 and 1831, by the acquisition of another quarter of the manor from the heirs of the Duke of Norfolk.⁵⁵ The present Marquess of Abergavenny owns three-quarters of this manor.⁵⁶

One-eighth of the manor passed to John, Duke of Norfolk,⁵⁷ and after various vicissitudes was assured in 1581 to his descendant, Philip, Earl of Arundel.⁵⁸ After later forfeitures it appears to have been granted by the Crown to the Sackville family.⁵⁹ The $\frac{1}{8}$ inherited by William, Lord Berkeley,⁶⁰ of which Sir Edward Poynings and others were enfeoffed in 1504,⁶¹ probably lapsed to the Crown after Poynings's death

in 1522⁶² and may also have been granted to the Sackvilles, Dukes of Dorset, whose representative in 1608 or 1609 died seised of $\frac{1}{4}$ of the manor of Houndean.⁶³ This $\frac{1}{4}$ descended in the family, sometimes under the name of *HOUNDEAN DORSET*,⁶⁴ until the death without issue of the 4th Duke of Dorset in 1815.⁶⁵ His mother, Arabella Diana, who married Charles, Earl Whitworth, held a life interest, and then, from 1825 to 1827, this $\frac{1}{4}$ manor was held jointly by Mary and Elizabeth Sackville, sisters of the 4th Duke, and their husbands, Other Archer, 6th Earl of Plymouth, and George John, 5th Earl De la Warr.⁶⁶ In November 1829 the court of this $\frac{1}{4}$ manor was held by Earl De la Warr only, and on 11 June 1831 by Henry, Earl of Abergavenny, who thus held $\frac{3}{4}$ of the manor of Houndean.⁶⁷

The $\frac{1}{8}$ of the manor that fell to Sir John Wingfield in 1484 after Margaret Tresham's death followed the descent of this part of the Lenthall lands⁶⁸ to William Spence,⁶⁹ who died in 1671.⁷⁰ His brother John, with Ruth his wife,⁷¹ in 1682 settled it on their son John Spence, with his first wife Mary Fagge.⁷² From the younger John Spence (d. 1713) this $\frac{1}{8}$ is thought to have passed to his son Robert Spence⁷³ and then through collaterals to Henry Spence by 1783.⁷⁴ He sold it before 1 June 1813 to Thomas Bradford, from whom it passed before 17 December 1819, along with the other $\frac{1}{8}$ (see below), to John, 1st Earl of Sheffield,⁷⁵ whose descendants continued to hold it until at least 1887.⁷⁶ In 1926 this $\frac{1}{8}$ was owned by Mrs. FitzPatrick.⁷⁷



SPENCE. *Sable a fesse battled argent.*



GORING. *Argent a chevron between three rings gules.*

The Stanley $\frac{1}{8}$ of the manor was conveyed in 1575 by Henry, Earl of Derby, and his wife Margaret to George Goring.⁷⁸ He died seised of it in 1602,⁷⁹ and his grandsons George and Charles Goring in January 1649 conveyed this so-called manor to Anthony Stapley,⁸⁰ possibly in trust for George Stone-

³⁸ Ibid. ³⁹ Ibid. 215. ⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Ct. of Wards, Inq. p.m. xxxiv, 202.

⁴² Ibid. xliiii, 165; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix,

212-13; Add. MS. 39495, fol. 401, citing *Recov. R. Mich.* 15 Jas. I, ro. 109.

⁴³ *Close R.* 4 Chas. I, pt. xxviii, no. 7. Amherst was one of four trustees to whom in 1617 Richard, Earl of Dorset, conveyed lands for the payment of his debts: Ct. of Wards, Inq. p.m. lxxi, 59.

⁴⁴ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 401 (citing P.C.C. 61 Audeley). The will was proved 3 May 1632.

⁴⁵ Ibid.; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 215-16.

⁴⁶ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 402.

⁴⁷ Feet of F. *Suss. Mich.* 3 Will. & Mary.

⁴⁸ *Lewes Chart.* ii, 24-5, 34-5.

⁴⁹ Pipe R. 25 Hen. III, m. 5 d.

⁵⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 169. Earl Warenne was assessed in this vill in 1296: *ibid.* 48.

⁵¹ See above, p. 4.

⁵² *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 1 Ric. III, no. 43.

⁵³ Above, p. 4.

⁵⁴ Above, p. 4. Cf. also *Bk. of F. Rowe*, 3 et seq.

⁵⁵ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 367 v.; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 16. See below.

⁵⁶ Cf. Add. MS. 39495, fols. 367 v, 373.

⁵⁷ See above, p. 5.

⁵⁸ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 367; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 15.

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ Above p. 5.

⁶¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 3370.

⁶² Add. MS. 39495, fol. 367.

⁶³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 214.

⁶⁴ Ibid. xix, 272-3; xx, 303-4, 494. See also Egerton MS. 1967, fol. 73 (1623-4).

⁶⁵ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 429; Add. MS. 39495, fols. 367-367 v.

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 367 v.

⁶⁸ Above, p. 6. Cf. Egerton MS. 1967, fol. 73 et seq.; *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. 2), bdle. 345, no. 5.

⁶⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 272.

⁷⁰ *Suss. Visit.* 1662 (Harl. Soc.), 103.

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 151; *Suss. Visit.* 1662, 43, 104.

⁷³ He died in 1750: *Suss. N. & Q.* iii, 192.

⁷⁴ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 368; *Recov. R. Trin.* 23 Geo. III, ro. 194; *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 278.

⁷⁵ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 368.

⁷⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 17.

⁷⁷ *Ex inf.* Messrs. Williams and James.

⁷⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 231. Cf. *ibid.* xiv, 330.

⁷⁹ Ibid. xiv, 482; xxxiii, 206; Egerton MS. 1967, fol. 73 et seq.; *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. 2), bdle. 345, no. 5.

⁸⁰ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 1643-60, p. 2051; Add. MS. 39495, fol. 369; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 236; *Close R.* 21 Chas. II, pt. vi, no. 14.

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street, who is said to have acquired this $\frac{1}{2}$ in this year⁸¹ and by his will of 2 June 1669 left it for life to his wife Martha.⁸² George Stonestreet left an only son John,⁸³ and in 1672 Sir John Stapley son of Anthony⁸⁴ conveyed this $\frac{1}{2}$ to John Stonestreet and Martha Stonestreet, widow.⁸⁵ This portion of Houndean is said to have been bought from Martha Stonestreet by her nephew John Spence,⁸⁶ who held the other $\frac{1}{2}$ (q.v.). He bequeathed the Stonestreet portion to his wife Anne Spence, for life, with remainder to his daughters Anne (d. 1737) and Elizabeth, as tenants in common, and then to the right heirs of his son Robert.⁸⁷ The widow Spence held a court for this part of the manor in 1739 and courts were subsequently held by Elizabeth Spence, spinster, and later by Ruth Spence her sister, who died at Bath in 1767.⁸⁸ In 1768 a moiety of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the manor appears to have been in the possession of Thomas Powys, great-nephew of Robert Spence.⁸⁹ What was probably another moiety of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the manor was held in 1771 by Henry Spence and conveyed to Walter Windsor.⁹⁰ The reunited $\frac{1}{2}$ was apparently sold to Henry Shelley,⁹¹ who held courts there, as did his son, another Henry, who died 31 December 1811.⁹² By 1 June 1813 this $\frac{1}{2}$ of the manor had been acquired by Thomas Bradford, who also owned the other $\frac{1}{2}$ (q.v.) and so held courts for the $\frac{1}{2}$ of Houndean⁹³ which was subsequently acquired by John, 1st Earl of Sheffield⁹⁴ (see above).

The chapelry of *SMITHWICK*⁹⁵ appears to have lain in Westout, in the neighbourhood of the old road to Brighton.⁹⁶

Maud widow of Ralph de Smythewic held a sheeprun in Smithwick in 1230 of Earl Warenne,⁹⁷ who then held demesne lands here.⁹⁸ In 1279 John de Warenne claimed free warren in Smithwick,⁹⁹ as did Richard, Earl of Arundel and Surrey, in 1373.¹

In 1428 half a knight's fee in Smithwick, described as in Barcombe Hundred, formerly held by Roger Dober and others, was split up between the heirs of John Fos, John Wydere, John Kelsale, John Hanslap, and Margery Mulstone.² This may represent part of the fee in Smithwick and Kingston of which the overlordship was assigned to the Duke of Norfolk in 1439³ and formed part of the dower of his widow Eleanor in 1461.⁴ This fee had formerly been held by Saer and Geoffrey de Rosey.⁵

This part of a fee in Smithwick probably descended with Hide in Kingston (q.v.), passing from the Gartons to Richard Mitchell, who in 1575 was holding certain customary lands called 'Smythwyke', but of the bedelwick of Plumpton⁶ (q.v.). Thomas Mitchell held these lands, about 30 acres, in 1597.⁷ A little later John de la Chambre held both Hide and land called Brednoore and Smithwick formerly Rosey's.⁸

Freeholds called 'Ashcombe' Brednoore or Smithwick' in Westout were devised in 1783 by William Boys of Ashcombe to his then only son John and his heirs, and failing them to his daughter Hannah, then wife of Samuel Ridge of Falmer.¹⁰

An alleged manor of *SMITHWICK*, held by Amy widow of Sir William Bowet, was to have been settled in 1447, ten years after her death, on Sir Thomas Dacre and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Sir William.¹¹ Eventually this manor, with five others, including Hurstpierpoint (q.v.), devolved upon their daughter Joan wife of Richard Fenys, who died in 1487, holding them of George Nevill, Lord Bergavenny, as $\frac{1}{20}$ knight's fee.¹² Nothing more is heard of this 'manor'.

In 1086 *WINTERBOURNE*, in Swanborough Hundred, was held as one hide of William de Warenne by Eldeid.¹³ To it pertained $3\frac{1}{2}$ haws or burgages in Lewes; and Edith had held the land in the time of King Edward. This land appears to have been absorbed into the manor of Houndean (q.v.) in this parish,¹⁴ and presumably descended with it. Winterbourne Farm was held by George, Lord Bergavenny,¹⁵ who died in 1535; and in 1628 Edward, Earl of Dorset, conveyed to William Wilson and Richard Isted the reversion after the death of Anne, dowager Countess of Dorset,¹⁶ of 'that old messuage or tenement called Winterborne and little parcel of land adjoining lying open to land called the Hides'. It contained about 30 acres and was bounded as follows: 'Kings Highway from the Spittles to Winterbourne and from Winterbourne to the Towne of Lewes and to a parcel of land called the parsonage croft and to the churchyard of St. Maries Westout and to the several landes of William Lane and Richard Knight, gent.'¹⁷ Winterbourne then descended with the manor of Hide in Westout (q.v.), being described as a manor and croft in 1630.¹⁸

The house of the *GREY FRIARS* at Lewes¹⁹ was surrendered to the Crown in 1538²⁰ and the site was

⁸¹ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 367 v. John Stapley, presumably Anthony's son, conveyed the 'manor' in 1650 to Herbert Springett, presumably his father-in-law, while Anthony was still alive: Recov. R. East. 1650, ro. 92; *Suss. Visit.* 1662 (Harl. Soc.), 105. In 1656 John and Mary Stapley conveyed $\frac{1}{2}$ manor to Geo. Stonestreet and Walter Brett: Feet of F. *Suss. Hil.* 1656.

⁸² Add. MS. 39495, fol. 371.

⁸³ Aged 9 in 1675: Add. MS. 39472, fol. 126.

⁸⁴ *Suss. Visit.* 1662, 105.

⁸⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 272. At the same time he conveyed $\frac{1}{2}$ of the castle of Lewes. In 1669 $\frac{1}{2}$ of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the manor was conveyed by James, Duke of York, to Peter Courthope of Danny: Add. MS. 39495, fol. 369, citing Close R. 21 Chas. II, pt. vi, no. 14. Peter had married in 1667 Philadelphia, daughter of Sir John Stapley of Patcham: Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Lewes), 84.

⁸⁶ *Suss. N. & Q.* iii, 192-3.

⁸⁷ Ibid. Anne was his second wife, and was the daughter of Sir John Spence: Add. MS. 39495, fol. 367 v.

⁸⁸ Ibid. Robert Spence had died in 1750: *Suss. N. & Q.* iii, 192.

⁸⁹ Recov. R. Hil. 8 Geo. III, ro. 12.

⁹⁰ Ibid. East. 11 Geo. III, ro. 202.

⁹¹ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 367 v.

⁹² Ibid.

⁹³ Ibid.

⁹⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.*, xxxv, 17.

⁹⁵ John de Smithewic occurs in 1202: *Curia Reg. R.* 1201-2, p. 272; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, 91.

⁹⁶ Cf. *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 145; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 947; cf. *ibid.* x, 169, 283.

⁹⁷ *Lewes Chart.* ii, 24, 35.

⁹⁸ Ibid. 26.

⁹⁹ *Plac. de Quo War.* (Rec. Com.), 750.

¹ *Cal. Pat.* 1370-4, p. 308.

² *Feud. Aids*, v, 153.

³ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 189, 192; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 18 Hen. VI, no. 28.

⁴ Ibid. 1 Edw. IV, no. 46; 4 Edw. IV, no. 59.

⁵ Ibid. 18 Hen. VI, no. 28; *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 189, 192. In 1296 Sayer Drosey paid subsidy in Westout (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 48) and he or another Saer de Rosey in 1349 conveyed shops and land in Lewes

and Westout to John Buchenet for life: *ibid.* vii, 1098.

⁶ *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 139, citing Add. MS. 37688.

⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 237.

⁸ Ibid. 195.

⁹ Thomas and Robert, Earls of Dorset, died in 1608 and 1609 respectively, seised of tenements called Ashcombe *alias* Smithwick: Ct. of Wards, *Inq. p.m.* ccvii, 202; *cccciii*, 165.

¹⁰ Add. MS. 39487, fol. 177 v.

¹¹ *Cal. Inq. p.m. Hen. VII*, i, 190; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 3092.

¹² *Cal. Inq. p.m. Hen. VII*, i, 662.

¹³ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 438b and note.

¹⁴ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 6.

¹⁵ Ibid. 150.

¹⁶ Close R. 4 Chas. I, pt. xxviii, no. 7.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 401.

¹⁹ Cf. *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 95-6. It stood between the East Gate and the bridge, its walls enclosing about 18 acres. On the south it was bounded by the Winterbourne stream, commonly called the Spring-ditch: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 33.

²⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (2), 1060.

leased in 1541 for 21 years to Sir John Gage.²¹ In 1544 the Crown granted the reversion to George Heydon and Hugh Stucley²² and they immediately conveyed their rights to John Keyme,²³ or Kyme,²⁴ who died in 1585, having bequeathed his house on the site to his niece Elizabeth Kyme and her heirs male.²⁵ Her husband John Shurley,²⁶ sergeant-at-law, who in 1588 bought the rights of her sister Joan wife of Sir George Paulett,²⁷ survived her and in 1610 settled the property on his second wife Frances Capell.²⁸ He died in 1612²⁹ and his son John died before his step-mother Frances, in 1631, leaving the reversion of Grey Friars after her death to his son John, then aged 10 or 11 years,³⁰ who died in 1637, while Frances was still alive.³¹ Under John Kyme's will, made in 1569, the residuary legatee was Seth Awcocke.³² William Alcock held the property at his death in 1662, when it passed to one of his daughters, Hannah wife of Thomas Pellatt of Bignor Park,³³ and after her death in 1693 to her son William Pellatt, who died in 1725 and was succeeded by his second son Apsley Pellatt.³⁴ His son Apsley appears to have left three sons, who sold the property in 1803, the greater portion being bought by George Verrall of Lewes in 1804, who sold much of it for building.³⁵ Sir Ferdinand Poole was tenant of the Friary for many years,³⁶ as was his father, Sir Francis Poole, of Poole, co. Cheshire.³⁷



PELLATT. *Argent two bars sable with a bezant on the upper bar.*

After Mr. Verrall's death what was left of the estate was bought by Nehemiah Wimble,³⁸ who was holding the Friary in 1830 when William IV and Queen Adelaide were entertained there.³⁹ His representatives sold it to the London and Brighton Railway Company, who built the original Lewes station on the site of the house.⁴⁰

The present church of *ST. JOHN-CHURCHES SUB-CASTRO* was built, from the designs of G. Cheesman, in 1839 within the extensive graveyard of the old church which occupies the early fortified enclosure in the NW. corner of the walled town. Built into the east (ceremonial south) wall of the modern church are the inscribed stones of the chancel arch of the early building, and into the north (ceremonial east) wall, its south doorway of pre-conquest date. Within each arch is also preserved a 13th-century coffin lid with floreated cross, and over the doorway is a stone dated 1638, with the names of the churchwardens, Edward Middleton and Henry Saman. The present church is of flint with brick dressings, with aisled nave and chancel and a western tower with embattled angle turrets.

The site of the early church lies north of the modern building, the paved chancel floor being preserved and

railed in owing to the vault below being retained for burial by the Crofts family. It consisted of chancel, un-aisled nave, and square west tower, and was apparently of Saxon build. In 1587 the chancel was pulled down and it was due to John Rowe⁴¹ and others that the chancel arch was preserved and built into the exterior of the south wall of the then existing nave. The arch consists of 15 stones, inscribed as follows in two concentric lines:

[CLAVDITUR : HIC : MILES : DANO] RVM : REGIA : PROLES : MANGNVS : NOMĒ : EI : MAN[GNE] : NOTA : PGENIEI :

[DEPONENS : MANGNVM : SE : MORI] BVS : INDVIT : AGNVM : : PPETE P VITA : FIT : PAR[VVLV]S : ARNACORITA : The inscription is in Lombardic characters except in the first four stones and the twelfth (shown in brackets above), which are an early-17th-century restoration. The arch measures about 8 ft. wide.

The Saxon doorway is an interesting example, the jambs and arch being formed of large stones cut roughly into three roll mouldings with a wide channel between them. These mouldings are continuous except where they are interrupted by a horizontal string at the springing. The string-course is square and relieved only by two V-cut lines, leaving a wide band between.

The church possesses two 18th-century bells, dated 1724, by John Waylett. A third by the same founder was re-cast in 1886.⁴²

The communion plate includes a silver cup, given by Elizabeth Powlett (1750); a paten, and two flagons; and a silver almsdish, the gift of John Crofts (1728).⁴³

The registers date from 1602.

In the churchyard is a table-tomb to the memory of Thomas Blunt (1611), barber-surgeon and one of 'the Twelve', who presented a silver cup to Lewes, among other benefactions. There is also an obelisk to the memory of the Russian prisoners of war who died during their internment in Lewes Naval Prison (1855-6).

The only part of the medieval church of *ALL SAINTS* that remains is the west tower. The original aisleless nave, chancel, and north chancel chapel, probably of 14th- and 15th-century date, were taken down in 1806 and the present brick nave, designed by Mr. Wilds, was built, with end and side galleries. A modern east end was added in stone, by W. Basset Smith and E. J. Munt, in 1883. The tower is of flint, with stone quoins, and is of three stages, the staircase turret being on the north side. It dates from the late 15th century and has diagonal buttresses at its western angles. It is entered by a western door with moulded 4-centred arch and jambs. Above the door are signs of a blocked west window. The ringers' chamber is lighted by small rectangular lights north, south, and west. The belfry has a two-light window on each face; the original battlements have been replaced by a plain parapet.

The monuments in the church have in some instances suffered by the rebuilding. There remain the

²¹ Ibid. xvii, p. 698.

²² Ibid. xix (1), g. 812 (52).

²³ Ibid. g. 812 (114), p. 508.

²⁴ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 143. He is here said to have bought Grey Friars in 1557.

²⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxi, 190. She also had the adjoining messuages called the White Hart and the Swan's Nest.

²⁶ Comber, op. cit. 144, 254.

²⁷ Pat. 31 Eliz. pt. vi. Cf. *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 182-3.

²⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccclxxi, 73.

²⁹ Ibid.; but see Comber, op. cit. 254.

³⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccclxxi, 73.

³¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 949.

³² Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxi, 190.

He was probably the son of a sister of John Kyme. Elizabeth and Joan were daughters of his brother Richard Kyme: Comber, op. cit. 143-4.

³³ Figg, in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 34; Comber, op. cit. 250; *Suss. Visit.* 1662 (Harl. Soc.), 87.

³⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 34; *Suss. Visit.* 1662, 87. Will. Pellatt married Grace only daughter of Apsley Newton of South-over: *ibid.*

³⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 34.

³⁶ *Ibid.*

³⁷ Horsfield, *Suss.* i, 211; Comber, op. cit. 212; G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, iv, 93-4. Sir Ferdinand died in 1804: *ibid.*

³⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 34.

³⁹ Horsfield, loc. cit. See painting, now in Lewes Town Hall, reproduced in *Suss. County Mag.* xi (1937), 112, 113.

⁴⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 34.

⁴¹ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 16.

⁴² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 42; L. S.

Davey, *St. John-sub-Castro*, 20.

⁴³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 230.

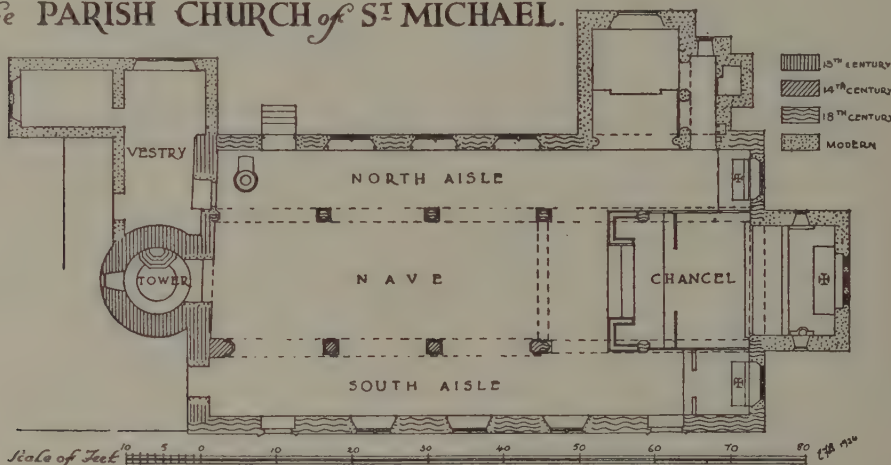
A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

kneeling effigies, arms, and inscription tablet from a wall-monument to John Stansfield (1627), the grandfather of John Evelyn, and Jane his wife.⁴⁴ The arms for a similar monument to Robert Hassard of Carshalton (1624) and his wife Anne (Moys) is in the nave, but the two kneeling effigies are preserved on brackets in the tower.⁴⁵ There are also mural tablets to Nathaniel Trayton (1714), Samuel Isted (1745), William Durrant (1751), Charles Blunt (1765), and a ledger stone to Rev. John Studley (1726). All have shields for arms,⁴⁶ those of Trayton and Durrant being now blank. There is a royal coat of arms (after 1837).

The tower has three bells, the oldest, of the early 15th century, being inscribed 'Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis', accompanied by a cross and shields, one

cel (27 ft. × 35 ft., and 14 ft. × 11 ft. extension) are divided by a two-centred moulded arch of the 14th century, which dies into the wall above the nave arcades at the point where the semi-octagonal respond abuts upon a half-pier of the chancel arcade. Its present form may be due to its being re-set in the 18th century. The two arches of the south aisle of the chancel, and the five uninterrupted arches of the north aisle of both chancel and nave are of wood, two-centred, moulded on the wall surface and panelled on the soffit. They are supported by octagonal wood-cased piers, with Doric capitals, which enclose oak posts to take the weight of the superstructure, and were erected in 1748. At the same time the south wall was rebuilt with squared

The PARISH CHURCH of S^t MICHAEL.



with a chevron between three lavers and the other a chevron between three trefoils. The second has the date 1595 and the name of Edmund Giles, bell-founder; the other the date 1625, with the names of the churchwardens and the initials of Roger Tapsell, the founder.⁴⁷

The communion plate includes a silver cup and paten (1744); a flagon given by Charles Gilbert and Francis Hopkins (1781); and three almsdishes, one of 1674 and the others gifts of Edward Trayton (1733) and Wynne E. Baxter (1875).⁴⁸

In the churchyard wall is a fountain called Pinwell which takes its name from an ancient well on the site.⁴⁹ At the east end of the churchyard is a 15th-century archway, much restored, which is said to have been removed from the Grey Friars.

The church of *ST. MICHAEL* stands on the north side of the High Street, some 30 yards within the West Gate, and its churchyard is on the rising ground south-west of the ditch surrounding the Castle mound. Of the original 13th-century fabric, the west wall and the circular western tower alone remain. The 14th-century arcade of the south aisle of the nave is still standing, but that of the north aisle and both arcades of the chancel were rebuilt in 1748, together with the outer walls. The eastern extension of the chancel, the vestries, and organ chamber are modern.

The nave (44 ft. × 35 ft. across the aisles) and chan-

cel (27 ft. × 35 ft., and 14 ft. × 11 ft. extension) are divided by a two-centred moulded arch of the 14th century, which dies into the wall above the nave arcades at the point where the semi-octagonal respond abuts upon a half-pier of the chancel arcade. Its present form may be due to its being re-set in the 18th century. The two arches of the south aisle of the chancel, and the five uninterrupted arches of the north aisle of both chancel and nave are of wood, two-centred, moulded on the wall surface and panelled on the soffit. They are supported by octagonal wood-cased piers, with Doric capitals, which enclose oak posts to take the weight of the superstructure, and were erected in 1748. At the same time the south wall was rebuilt with squared

and knapped flintwork facing. This wall has a stone plinth, quoins to the angles, moulded cornice and ball finials at the ends, all in Portland stone. Two door-ways of the same material and date remain, but the windows have been replaced by modern ones. The date 1748 is contained in a quatrefoil panel over the centre window, and each side of this, along the entire length of the church, are a number of black flints, said to have at one time formed an inscription. The north wall of the church was modernized when the aisle roof (formerly a continuation of the nave roof) was raised. Before this the chancel aisle alone, on this side, had an independent roof, being probably an original chapel.

The three arches of the 14th-century south aisle arcade are of two orders, the outer one having a hollow chamfer. The piers are octagonal in plan, with semi-octagonal responds, and have moulded capitals and bases. The roofs are concealed behind a curved plaster ceiling. The west wall contains a blocked 13th-century lancet window at the end of the north aisle, and some of the stones of a similar window to the south aisle are still in position.

The tower, circular in plan (9 ft. diam.), is of flint, formerly rendered with thin plaster and now rough-cast. It is of 13th-century date, the belfry story being lighted by quatrefoil lights to the west and south. There was formerly a lancet to the south at a lower level; the present western light is modern, as is also

⁴⁴ *Suss. N. & Q.* vii, 1.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* iii, 58.

⁴⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxi, 134.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* xvi, 148-9, 160, 216.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* liv, 229.

⁴⁹ An inscribed stone from the well is

in the lapidary museum at The Barbican, Lewes. 'Pinwellstrete' occurs in a deed of about 1280: *Lewes Chart.* ii, 23.



LEWES: THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-SUB-CASTRO, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, *c.* 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



LEWES: THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, *c.* 1800
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)



LEWES: THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, FROM THE NORTH, *c.* 1790
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)



LEWES: THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE, FROM THE NORTH-EAST, *c.* 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)

THE RAPE AND HONOR OF LEWES BOROUGH OF LEWES

the tower arch. The tower is roofed by a shingled octagonal spire, spreading in broach fashion at the base, and much twisted by the weather.

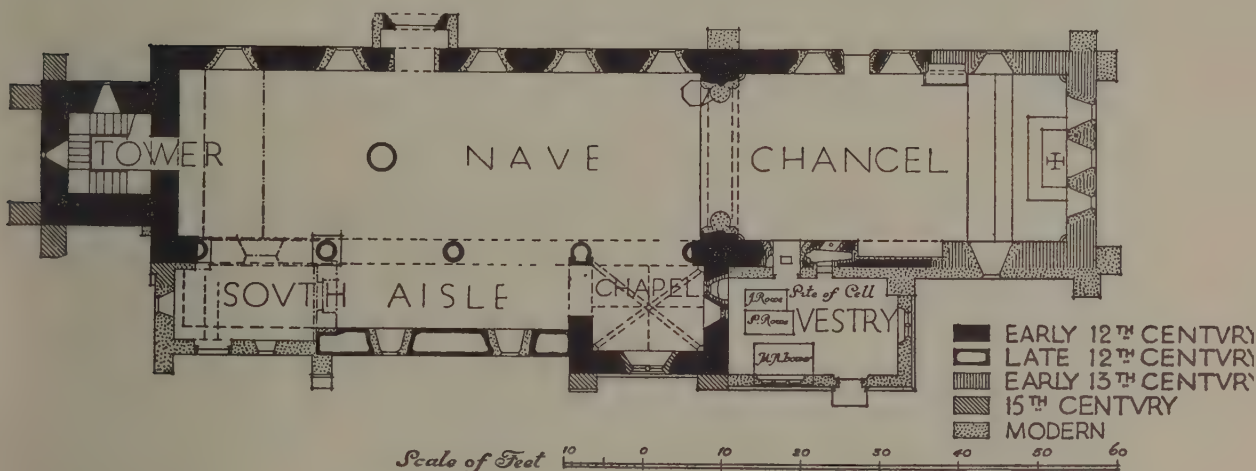
The memorials include: a brass, the headless effigy of a member of the de Warenne family in armour, c. 1430, with a shield of arms; a brass of John Braydforde (1457), rector, with a half-length figure, vested for Mass; a wall-monument, with the kneeling figures of Sir Nicholas Pelham (1559) and Anne (Sackville) his wife, and figures of their ten children below; and the achievement of arms from the tablet of George Goring (1602) with a copy of the original inscription.⁵⁰

There are two bells, one inscribed 'Edmundus Giles me fecit 1608', and the other R.B. 1571, with initials

tower, probably in the 15th century. The external walls are of flint with stone dressings, the whole much modernized in 1889, when the windows of varying dates were removed and replaced by a uniform pattern of 13th-century type. The roofs are of tile with Horsham slabs to the south slope of the nave. The main entrance is on the north by a much restored shallow gabled porch of the 12th century, with a semicircular arch of three orders, the middle one being enriched with chevron ornament, and carried by nook-shafts with cushion capitals. The priests' door in the north chancel wall has a plain semicircular arch and is also restored Norman work.

The chancel (41 ft. 6 in. × 21 ft.) has no ancient

The PARISH CHVRCH of ST ANNE



of churchwardens or donors. The clock, which used to be attached to the church and which has been removed to an adjoining building, has a bell dated 1696.⁵¹

The church possesses the following pieces of communion plate: Two silver cups and patens of 1753, the gift of Thomas Sergison; a silver cup and paten of 1664; a silver paten of 1734 (given 1735), and a silver flagon of 1753.⁵²

The registers date from 1570, and the church possesses a copy of the 16th-century Churchwarden's Book, the original of which was presented to the Sussex Archaeological Society and is preserved at Barbican House, Lewes. This includes lists of parishioners and their assessment for poor-rate from 1525.

The church of *ST. ANNE*, formerly *St. Mary Westout*, consists of a nave and south aisle, with a chapel at its east end, unaisled chancel, west tower, and a modern vestry, which is on the site of an ankerhold. The nave (66 ft. × 21 ft. 6 in.) was originally aisleless and dates from the early 12th century. One of its windows is still to be seen in the south wall, cut into by the westernmost arch of the later aisle arcade. Of the same period are the tower, south chapel, and the western half of the chancel, which is the same width as the nave. The south aisle arcade is of the late 12th century. The chancel was extended towards the east in the 13th century, and buttresses were added to the

structural features except a moulded and carved corbel in each angle, which suggests an intention to vault the eastern part of the church, probably in two bays. The original squint from the ankerhold in the south wall remains in part. The chancel arch is entirely modern.

The south chapel is structurally part of the early-12th-century church and has a contemporary window with semicircular head and wide internal splays in its east wall. This window is now blocked. In its south wall a two-light window was inserted in the 15th century. To the left of the east window, but considerably below it, is a hatch to the ankerhold, still retaining the iron pins for its door. The chapel was vaulted in stone late in the 12th century, with moulded diagonal vaulting-ribs, and at the same time its west wall was pierced by a semicircular arch connecting it with the new aisle, and its arched opening to the nave was probably re-formed to harmonize with the nave arcade. This arcade, of four arches, was cut through the south wall of the nave, the three arches towards the west being pointed, but that communicating with the chapel circular. The arches are supported by three circular piers and two semicircular responds, the easternmost pier being attached to the pierced west wall of the chapel. These piers have remarkably fine capitals with a square moulded abacus, beneath which runs a band of well modelled stiff-leaf foliage, also square in

⁵⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxviii, 79; lxxi, 136, 137.

⁵¹ *Ibid.* xvi, 217.

⁵² *Ibid.* liv, 230-1.

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plan. The four angles of the capitals, where they project beyond the circular pier, are supported by carved corbels, some of which are fluted, some carved with foliage and in one instance modelled as human heads. The western bay of the aisle fell into ruin in the 16th century, and the last arch of the arcade, which was then built up, remained unopened until 1927. The carved foliage was thus preserved in its original state and shows that there was a progressive improvement in the quality of the work from east to west. The westernmost pier and the western respond alone retain their water-hollow moulded bases, and when uncovered they showed the original red masonry over a thin coating of lime-wash or plaster.

The remains of the anchorhold, evidently that of the anchoress to whom St. Richard de Wych left 5s. in his will (1253), are preserved within the vestry, built upon the site. They consist of the hatch opening into the south chapel, with a roughly formed but much worn seat on the inside; a cupboard-like recess, and a larger recess eastward, which was pierced by a squint to give a view of the altar. Within this last recess is the grave of the anchoress in which her remains were found and to which they have been re-committed.⁵³

The west tower (11 ft. × 10 ft.) is approached from the nave by a low semi-circular arched door-way. It had no external door, but in its west wall there has recently been inserted a Norman arch of Caen stone, found in the 16th-century blocking to the curtailed aisle, and believed to be the original south door of the church. The tower is of three stages, without any external indication of the floors, and has narrow round-headed lights to the north and west, louvred openings to the belfry on all but the south side. It is roofed with a shingled broach spire above its original parapet and corbel table.

The nave was apparently re-roofed in 1538, when the union of the parishes of St. Mary and St. Peter Westout took place, the trusses being of queen-post design. The chancel roof retains its medieval tie-beams.

The fittings of the church include the following: Tub-shaped font (12th century) carved with interlacing bands in basket-work pattern between a band of guilloche ornament below, and of circular bosses near the rim. Octagonal carved oak pulpit with two stages of panels covered with enrichment and with centre bosses of lions' heads. The angles have double columns. The pulpit has lost its original top, which had a carved frieze and an inscription recording this as the gift of Herbert Springett in the year 1620; part of the inscription is in the Barbican House Museum. The gallery front at the west end of the church is probably late-18th-century and there is a good royal coat of arms of George IV, carved in the round, beneath it. The processional cross is of brass, pierced and engraved. It is stated to be Abyssinian and to be one of the crosses looted from the churches of Magdala by Theodore and brought to England after the war of 1868.

In the north wall of the chancel is an altar-tomb surmounted by a stone canopy that does not appear to belong to it. On the tomb has been placed a large

Purbeck slab from a third monument. One or more of these memorials may have come from St. Peter Westout. On the east wall is a brass to Dr. Thomas Twine (1613) with an inscription and coat of arms,⁵⁴ and on the south wall a brass to Robert Heath (1681) also with his arms. In the south chapel is a mural tablet of marble to Richard Rideout (1732) with arms. In the vestry floor is the ledger-stone over the grave of John Rowe (1639),⁵⁵ with his arms, and attached to the wall are stones⁵⁶ recording the death of two infants, Thomas Rowe (1625, with arms) and Edmund Raynes (1636), and also that of Susan Raynes (1637).

The bells are three in number, Nos. 1 and 3 inscribed 'William Hull made mee, 1683' with the names of the wardens. No. 2 is inscribed 'Sancta Katerina ora pro nobis' and bears the royal arms and other emblems (15th century).⁵⁷

The plate includes a communion cup and paten of silver given by Richard Rideout (1765), and a silver paten (1756).⁵⁸

The registers begin in 1679.

Soon after the Conquest, William, *ADFOWSONS* and Earl Warenne, gave to the Prior and Convent of Lewes the reversion, after the death of Richoard the priest, of the churches of St. John (sub Castro),⁵⁹ St. Peter (the Less), St. Andrew, St. Mary (in Foro), and St. Martin, and, after the death of Bristelm the priest, of St. Nicholas and Holy Trinity, all these within the borough of Lewes.⁶⁰ The parish of St. Sepulchre was in existence by 1237 when a messuage there, in the high street of Lewes, was given to the frater of the priory of St. Pancras,⁶¹ and there is a reference to the tithing of St. Sepulchre in 1287.⁶² Probably this consisted of the group of tenants of the Knights Templars mentioned in 1278,⁶³ and on the suppression of the order their chapel no doubt ceased to be used; this in 1337 was one of the churches said to be decayed.⁶⁴ By 1319 two other churches, Holy Trinity and St. Peter the Little, were 'entirely ruined by storms and gales'.⁶⁵ To a third, St. Nicholas, presentation was made in 1410 by the Prior and Convent of St. Pancras, Lewes,⁶⁶ but it was not among those surrendered by the Prior in 1537,⁶⁷ so that it was probably already in that ruinous state which gave it the name of 'The Broken Church'. In 1592 the Queen granted this 'Broken Church' to William Tipper and Robert Dawe of London, who sold it in the same year to John Corle of Lewes, shoemaker, who enfeoffed several men, including John Holter, junior.⁶⁸ It was in the occupation of Henry Townesend in about 1622.⁶⁹ The Broken Church later passed into the possession of the borough, the profits being used to defray the expenses of the constables.⁷⁰

The church of All Saints was in the patronage of the Bishop of Chichester in 1337, by which time it was said to be impoverished and unserved, as were all the other churches within Lewes, apparently, except St. Michael's and St. John-sub-Castro.⁷¹ The bishop in this year drew up a scheme, not then carried out, by which the parishes of St. Mary-in-Foro and St. Peter

⁵³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxi, 159.

⁵⁴ *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 197.

⁵⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxi, 138, 139.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* lxxiii, 284.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* xvi, 151, 216; lvii, 40.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.* lv, 229.

⁵⁹ St. John's (rated at £5) was the only church within the walls noted in 1291:

Tax. Eccl. (Rec. Com.), 136.

⁶⁰ *Lewes Chart.* i, 14. But in the charter on p. 20 St. Peter is omitted.

⁶¹ *Ibid.* ii, 4.

⁶² *Assize R.* 924, m. 58.

⁶³ *Plac. de Quo Warr. (Rec. Com.)*, 761.

⁶⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxviii, 176, quoting *Anct. D. A.* 14181.

⁶⁵ *Lewes Chart.* ii, 6.

⁶⁶ *Bp. Rede's Register*, ii, 312.

⁶⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 427.

⁶⁸ *Pat. R.* 34 Eliz. pt. iv; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 29-30.

⁶⁹ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 9.

⁷⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 30-1.

⁷¹ *Ibid.* lxxviii, 176.

the Less were to be merged in St. John-sub-Castro, in which churchyard their parishioners had formerly been buried, and those parts of the parishes of Holy Trinity, St. Sepulchre, and St. Nicholas which lay to the north of the highway of Lewes were also to go to St. John's. The parish of All Saints was to absorb the parts of these three parishes south of the highway, and also the entire parishes of St. Andrew and St. Martin, but saving in the case of these latter two the rights of burial of the church of St. Michael.⁷²

The Bishops of Chichester presented to the church of All Saints at least to 1501.⁷³ In 1713 the Queen presented, by lapse, and the King in 1777.⁷⁴ From 1799 to 1915 the Goring family were patrons.⁷⁵ The rectory is now held in plurality with St. Thomas at Cliffe and is in the gift of E. and N. Harvey Smith.⁷⁶

St. Michael's, Lewes, was in 1301 in the patronage of the Prior and Chapter of Christ Church, Canterbury,⁷⁷ and so remained until the Dissolution. In 1541 the king granted to the Dean and Chapter a pension of 3s. from the rectory of St. Michael,⁷⁸ but apparently retained the advowson.

The parish of St. Martin may have lost its identity by the early 16th century, since it was not included in the surrender of the Prior of Lewes in 1537,⁷⁹ after which the advowsons of St. Mary-in-the-Market, St. Andrew, and St. John-under-the-Castle,⁸⁰ were given, in 1538, to Cromwell.⁸¹

In 1545 the united parish of St. Michael and St. Andrew was formed, since the revenues of St. Michael's were so decreased as not to support a curate, and the church had lain desolate for 6 years.⁸² St. Michael's was retained as being the larger and more beautiful church, but the rector of St. Andrew's was given the new cure.⁸³ The Crown presented to the joint benefice in 1550;⁸⁴ later the united parish was known as St. Michael's⁸⁵ and the Lord Chancellor was patron till 1877. The advowson was acquired, before 1891, by the rector, the Rev. Edgar Herman Cross, D.D.,⁸⁶ but by 1915 it had come into the hands of the Society for the Maintenance of the Faith⁸⁷ who still hold it.⁸⁸

The parishes of St. Mary-in-the-Market-Place and St. John-sub-Castro were joined in 1538.⁸⁹ A crown presentation to the two rectories was made in Sept. 1554,⁹⁰ but two years later the title of St. Mary is omitted.⁹¹ The Crown was still patron in 1559, but in 1561 Sir Richard Sackville presented,⁹² and the advowson descended with the Earls of Dorset until 1662.⁹³ In that year Earl Richard sold it to Thomas

Stephenson, clerk, on whose death in 1666 it was bought by Francis Chaloner and at once sold to Henry Thurnam. He died in 1668 and the advowson was sold to Richard Clarke, apothecary of London, who in 1674 sold to Philip Shore, distiller; from a later Philip Shore it was bought in 1712 by Richard Davis of Lewes,⁹⁴ and William Davis, clerk, in 1741, conveyed the advowson to John Crofts.⁹⁵ A John Crofts was patron in 1774⁹⁶ and 1792;⁹⁷ the Rev. Peter Guerin Crofts was patron in 1847, when he resigned the incumbency at the age of 84,⁹⁸ and as late as 1859,⁹⁹ as was Henry Peter Crofts of Sompting from 1868 until 1890. Mrs. Tristram held the patronage from 1891 till about 1915,¹ and it is now held by Major Guy Tristram.²

There were two churches in Westout, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Mary, and these were given in about 1095 to the priory of St. Pancras, by William II, Earl Warenne.³ The parish of St. Peter's lay without the west gate of Lewes but within the extended borough, while that of St. Mary's lay outside not merely the walls of the town but also outside the boundaries of the borough as at first extended.⁴ In 1622 'the boulder-stone' of the borough of Lewes lay over against the east end of the chancel of St. Mary's,⁵ as it still does, though since 1881 it no longer marks the boundary of the borough.

The Prior and convent of Lewes presented the rectors of these two churches⁶ until their surrender to the Crown in 1537.⁷ The advowsons were straight away granted to Thomas Cromwell.⁸ By this time, however, the church of St. Peter had fallen into disuse and disrepair, since the parishioners could no longer support a rector, and so, at their petition, this parish was united on 20 March 1539 with that of St. Mary, whose rector then took charge of the joint parishes,⁹ which are frequently referred to as the parish of St. Peter and St. Mary Westout.¹⁰ St. Anne's was used as the name of this parish instead of St. Mary's on 24 May 1538,¹¹ and in 1622 the church is called St. Mary Westout *alias* St. Anne's.¹² By 1669 the united parish seems officially to have been described as St. Anne's;¹³ the designation St. Anne's Without applied only to the civil parish outside the borough.¹⁴

The Crown had regained the right of presentation by 1551,¹⁵ and later the right was transferred to the Lord Chancellor, who still presents.¹⁶

John Sherman of the parish of St. Andrew, by will dated 20 July 1474, directed that he should be buried

⁷² Ibid.
⁷³ *Bp. Rede's Reg.* ii, 250, 292, 318; Add. MS. 39405A, fol. 15, citing Bp. Story's Reg.
⁷⁴ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).
⁷⁵ Ibid.; *Clergy List* sub. anno.
⁷⁶ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).
⁷⁷ Add. MSS. 39339, fol. 87.
⁷⁸ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvi, g. 878 (59). The priory had received this pension before the Dissolution: *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 335.
⁷⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 427. A rector of St. Martin's in Lewes is mentioned in 1612 (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 225), but this was probably an error.
⁸⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 427.
⁸¹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74).
⁸² Ibid. xx (2), g. 1068 (24).
⁸³ Ibid.
⁸⁴ *Cal. Pat. Edw. VI*, iii, 359.
⁸⁵ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.), 1786, 1815, 1826.

⁸⁶ Add. MS. 39339, fol. 87.
⁸⁷ *Clergy List*.
⁸⁸ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).
⁸⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxviii, 173.
⁹⁰ *Cal. Pat.* 1554-5, p. 212.
⁹¹ Ibid. 1555-7, p. 503; cf. *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 8-15. Cf. *ibid.* 10, in St. Mary's Lane in the parish of St. John-sub-Castro.
⁹² Add. MS. 39339, fol. 58.
⁹³ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).
⁹⁴ Add. MS. 39339, fol. 65.
⁹⁵ Ibid.; Feet of F. *Suss. East.* 14 Geo. II.
⁹⁶ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).
⁹⁷ *Recov. R. Hil.* 32 Geo. III, ro. 13.
⁹⁸ Add. MS. 39339, fol. 62.
⁹⁹ *Clergy List*.
¹ Ibid.
² Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).
³ *Lewes Chart.* i, 15, 21.
⁴ F. Bentham Stevens in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 265. Cf. *ibid.* lxviii, 174.
⁵ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 122.

⁶ Cf. *Bp. Rede's Register*, ii, 252, 260, 264, 310. For earlier rectors see *Lewes Chart.* ii, 5, 24, 29, 35.
⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 427.
⁸ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74).
⁹ Ibid. xiv (1), 572; *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 197-9.
¹⁰ *Cal. Pat.* 1550-3, p. 72; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.) (1626-62).
¹¹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), 1059.
¹² *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 122. In 1632 Marmaduke Wyvell was said to have been baptized in the parish church of St. Anne on 25 Feb. 1610: *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. 2), cccclxii, 8.
¹³ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.); cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 268; *Clergy Lists*; Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).
¹⁴ *Pl.-N. *Suss.** ii, 320.
¹⁵ *Cal. Pat.* 1550-3, p. 72.
¹⁶ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.); *Clergy Lists*.

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'in Capella mea in honorem Sancte Marië Virginis de nouo edificata in simiterio ecclesie Sancti Petri in Lewes'¹⁷ and endowed a chantry therein. His brother Thomas Sherman increased the endowment in 1494.¹⁸ This was Sherman's Chantry in St. Peter's, Westout, which was confiscated under Edward VI,¹⁹ and was sold by the Crown in 1549 to Henry Tanner and Thomas Bocher of London.²⁰ The grant included the chapel and a rood of land annexed to it called 'the Churche Yarde of Seynt Peters', and the house called 'the Chauntrie Howse', and all lands belonging to Sherman's chantry in Lewes, Denton, Chiltington, Arlington, and Kingston near Lewes.²¹ The property was acquired by John Kyme, who bought the site of the Grey Friars in Lewes (q.v.). He died in 1585²² and John Kyme bequeathed it to his niece Joan,²³ later wife of Sir George Paulett of Crondall, co. Hants;²⁴ but part, at any rate, of the chantry lands apparently went to John Kyme's sister-in-law, Margaret, widow of Richard Kyme and subsequently wife of Richard Jefferey of South Malling,²⁵ since 'Richard Jefferayes gentleman' was holding in 1587-8 a tenement called 'the Chappell House', subsequently known as the Chantry House.²⁶ Mrs. Mary Jenkins in 1708 bought the former chantry house, and gave it in 1709 to be inhabited by the school-master of the free Grammar School in Southover²⁷ (q.v.). The school removed here in 1714.²⁸

Lewes has long been a centre of nonconformity.²⁹ The West Gate Unitarian chapel was opened in 1700 and received accessions of Independents from an earlier chapel in Crown Lane in 1711, and of others from Watergate Lane in 1756.³⁰ A chapel in St. Mary's Lane (now Station Street), erected by Thomas Mantell for the Countess of Huntingdon's connexion, was taken over in 1807 by the Wesleyans,³¹ and the present Methodist church was built in 1867.³² The Congregational Tabernacle, near the bridge, dates from 1816; the Baptists, whose first chapel was built in Eastport Lane, Southover, in 1741,³³ have a place of worship in Eastgate; the Presbyterian Church of England in Market Street; and the Friends in Friars Walk. The Roman Catholic church, in St. Anne's parish, was opened in 1870.

Town Brook and Hangman's Acre. **CHARITIES** It appears from the deeds relating to these charities that the former was given by John Rowe in 1603 upon trust towards the expenses of the constables, and the latter, of which the date of acquisition is unknown, was assigned towards defraying the constables' expenses and in aid of the town tax. The land known as the Godfreys in East Chiltington was acquired in 1703 and settled upon trust in aid of the constables' rate.³⁴ By a scheme of the Charity Commissioners, dated 9 June 1922, the Corporation of Lewes are trustees of the charities and the income of Godfrey's and Hangman's Acre, amounting to £7 10s. and £5 5s. annually, respectively, is applied in aid of the Borough Fund of the Corporation, and that of the Town Brook, amounting to £25, in support

of the Public Baths erected on land belonging to the charity.

Ann Smith's Charity. By an indenture dated 20 November 1572, a rent-charge of £2 issuing out of the manors of Wilting and Hollington was granted to trustees to the use of the poor dwelling within the town of Lewes. The rent-charge was redeemed in 1936 and the annual dividends of £2 are divided equally between the parishes of All Saints, St. John, St. Michael, and St. Anne.

Thomas Blunt, by will dated 26 August 1611 gave his messuage in Lewes upon trust, and directed his trustees to pay out of the rents thereof, £3 yearly to the free School of Lewes, and £3 yearly to the poor (£1 yearly to be paid to the poor of the parish of St. John-under-the-Castle, and the remaining £2 yearly to the poor of five other parishes, viz.: St. Michael, All Saints, St. Mary Westout, Southover, and St. Thomas at Cliffe). The endowment now consists of property known as Nos. 171 and 172 High Street, garden land, and £43 3s. 7d. 3½ per cent. War Stock, the whole producing a yearly income of £85 2s. 4d. One moiety of the net income is applied for educational purposes and the remaining moiety paid to the poor of Lewes as follows: parish of St. John ⅔ and ⅓ to each of the remaining five parishes mentioned above.

The British Workmen's Institute. By a deed dated 25 October 1872 Eliza Payne conveyed to trustees land, with the building thereon, to be used as a place of resort by working men of Lewes for the promotion of their moral, intellectual, and religious improvement. She also by her will, proved 25 February 1895, gave certain shares as an endowment for the Institute, and John Hodgkin by his will, proved 29 July 1875, gave £50. The Institute was sold in 1922 and by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners, dated 26 February 1924, the income arising from the proceeds of the sale and from the endowments, amounting in all to £41 4s. 6d., shall be applied towards the support of the Lewes Branch of the Y.M.C.A. or any other similar institution in Lewes.

The Hon. and Rev. Sidney Godolphin Osborne by will proved 31 May 1889 gave £500, the income thereof to be distributed in coal to widows having children dependent on them and being resident in Lewes. The endowment produces £13 2s. 8d. annually.

Gateway House Shelter Home. By a deed dated 20 February 1930, property known as 18 East Street, Lewes, was conveyed upon trust as a Shelter Home for Girls in connexion with the Chichester Diocesan Purity Association. The Home was sold, and the income derived from the investment of the proceeds of sale, amounting to £37 a year, is paid to the Lewes Branch of the Chichester Diocesan Moral Welfare Association under a scheme of the Charity Commissioners of 13 March 1931.

Mary Ann Haire by will dated 13 December 1845 gave £400 upon trust, the interest thereon to be divided into eight equal parts, of which three such parts to

¹⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 266; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xliii, 129.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ *Ibid.* xxxvi, 27, 59, 126; P.R.O. Rentals and Surveys, portf. 22, no. 83; portf. 29, no. 33; Aug. Off. Misc. Bks. 375.

²⁰ *Cal. Pat.* 1548-9, pp. 421-2.

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 89, from Bod-

leian MS. Rawlinson B. 433; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxi, 190.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 144.

²⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 631; Comber, loc. cit.

²⁶ W. H. Godfrey, in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxix, 227-8.

²⁷ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 414-15.

²⁸ *Ibid.*; cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxi, 227.

²⁹ J. M. Connell, *Lewes: its Religious History* (1931).

³⁰ *Ibid.* 120; Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 302-4; and see above, p. 10.

³¹ Horsfield, op. cit. 306.

³² Cornell, op. cit. 149.

³³ Horsfield, op. cit. 304.

³⁴ *Ibid.* 316-17.

be distributed in bread among the poor inhabitants of All Saints, Lewes. A further sum of £142 was received by way of a gift from the Rev. William John Langdale in augmentation of the legacy. The income of the charity, amounting to £2 11s. 4d. per annum, is distributed to the poor in kind in accordance with a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 16 August 1901.

Thomas Matthew by will dated 21 December 1688 gave his house on Keere Hill for the use and benefit of the poor of the parish of St. Michael's, chiefly poor widows. By an order of the County Court of Sussex dated 16 March 1858 it was directed that the building or Almshouse should be used as a residence for six deserving poor widows or poor single women not less than fifty years of age. A Scheme of the Charity Commissioners, dated 21 February 1936, appoints a body of trustees to administer the charity and provides regulations for the management of the Almshouses.

Henry Cecil Sotheran, by will proved 29 December 1928, gave £500 in augmentation of the rectory of St. Michael's, Lewes. The endowment now produces £25 3s. 8d. annually in dividends which are paid to the rector.

Spital Houses, Westout.³⁵ Tradition reports this charity to have been founded and endowed by the founder of the Priory of Lewes about 1085 for the maintenance of 13 poor brethren and sisters. The endowment consisted of 6 cottages, with a garden and small croft of land in the parish, the rent of which was distributed to the poor. Part of the property was sold

in 1869 and the remainder in 1901, and the proceeds invested.

Unknown Donor. A rentcharge of 18s. 4d. in aid of the Spital Charity is charged upon land and hereditaments in High Street in Westout, the property of the Marquess of Abergavenny.

Market Lane Property. Upon the suppression of the Priory of Lewes, land or garden ground and a slaughter-house and buildings thereon, in Market Lane, Lewes, seems to have come into the possession of the parish of St. Mary Westout. The premises were let and the rent applied to deserving parishioners. The land was sold in 1897 and the purchase money invested.

Parkhurst's Charity. There is a tradition in the parish that Richard Parkhurst³⁶ by will dated in or about 1586 devised a piece of ground for the residence of poor people of the parish. It appears that four houses formerly stood on the site but have long since gone entirely to decay. The land was sold in 1867 and the proceeds invested.

Trustees of the above-mentioned charities for the parish of St. Anne's are appointed by an Order of the Charity Commissioners and the total income of the charities, amounting to about £43 annually, is distributed to old and necessitous inhabitants in accordance with a scheme of the said Commissioners dated 24 April 1868.

Mary Ridge, by will, proved 18 August 1876, gave £400, the interest therefrom to be applied in carrying on the services of the Westgate Unitarian Chapel in Lewes. The endowment produces £9 7s. annually.

³⁵ For the early history of this charity see 'The Hospital of St. Nicholas, Lewes': *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 104. For bequests to the hospital between 1375 and 1560 see *Suss.*

Wills (Suss. Rec. Soc.), iii, 151-2.

³⁶ The name is given as 'Kykehurst' in *Bk. of J. Rowe* (125), as 'Rykehurst' in

Suss. N. & Q. ii, 179; and as 'Pikehurst' in Horsfield's *Lewes* (313). The will cannot now be traced.

THE HUNDRED OF SOUTHOVER

CONTAINING THE PARISH OF SOUTHOVER

IN 1249 and 1263 Southover¹ was described as a halimote,² but in 1275 as a half-hundred³ and so also in 1287,⁴ 1332,⁵ and 1334.⁶ Between 1540 and 1560 it was described for the collection of lay subsidies as a hundred,⁷ and so again in 1587, at which date it comprised the villis of Southover and also Lewes.⁸ In 1296 and 1327 it was regarded, also for taxation purposes, as a 'borough' and was extra-hundredal, as was Lewes,⁹ and so again from 1572 to at least 1665.¹⁰ In 1831 Southover was reckoned in Swanborough Hundred,¹¹ while in Figg's map of Sussex (1861) it is definitely marked as part of Barcombe Hundred, as it seems also to be in Budgen's map of 1724. Hundreds are for all practical purposes now extinct, but theoretically there appears still to be a hundred of Southover.

¹ Southenouere (xi cent.); Suthoure (xii cent.); Suthenore, Suthovere (xiii cent.).

² Ass. R. 909, m. 32; *ibid.* 912, m. 41.

³ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 209.

⁴ Assize. R. 924, m. 59d, where tithings of Westporte and Estporte are mentioned; cf. *Lewes Chart.* i, 91-105.

⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 296 (subsidy).

⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* 1, 171.

⁷ Lay Subs. 190, nos. 175, 235, 246, 267. The owners of the manor of Southover from 1541 to 1609 held also the 'borough': *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 24; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccxi, 110.

⁸ Lay Subs. 190, no. 309.

⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 51, 183.

¹⁰ Lay Subs. 190, nos. 283 (1572), 299 (1576), 342 (1622); *ibid.* 191, nos. 372 (1625), 382 (1628), 409 (1664); *ibid.* 258, nos. 15, 18 (1664, 1665) (Hearth Tax).

¹¹ Lewis, *Top. Dict.* (1831 ed.)



SOUTHOVER: ANNE OF CLEVES HOUSE



SOUTHOVER: THE GRANGE, FROM THE NORTH-WEST



LEWES PRIORY: THE GREAT GATE, c. 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



LEWES PRIORY: THE INFIRMARY CHAPEL, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

SOUTHOVER HUNDRED

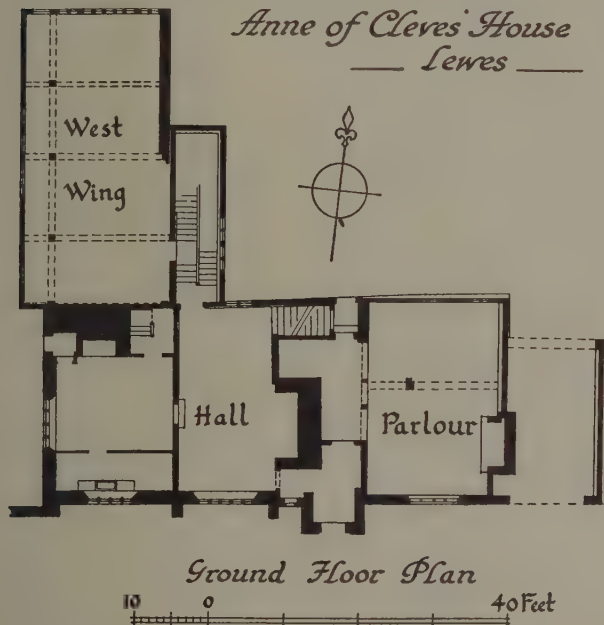
SOUTHOVER

Southover is first mentioned at the end of the 11th century,¹ and was presumably the parish originally served by the pre-Conquest wooden church of St. Pancras which William de Warenne rebuilt and made the nucleus of his priory.² The parish was outside the ancient borough of Lewes,³ but the urban portion formed part of the new municipal borough in 1881.⁴ By a Local Government Act of 1894 it was divided into St. John the Baptist, Southover, within the borough, and Southover Without, and in 1913 the civil parish of St. John the Baptist was included in the civil parish of Lewes.⁵ By the East Sussex Review Order of 1934

wards and a modern staircase hall stands between the wings on the east from the south wing. The original windows are of stone, mullioned and (on the ground floor) transomed, and with stone weather-mouldings. The chimney-stacks, which are all restored, are of stone well above the eaves, and have brick shafts. Internally there is a good Elizabethan oak staircase in the north wing and much of the roof timbering is original. A number of the old stone fire-places remain, those of Newton's date having his initials and the date 1572. There are also two early-16th-century fire-places with carved spandrels, which were probably removed from the prior's lodging, Lewes Priory. Others are dated 1629 and 1675. There is a stone in the garden wall dated 1729 and a lead pump-head with 1789. The gardens, through which the Winterbourne flows, are extensive and include the site of Lewes Grammar School, which John Evelyn attended when staying at the Grange with his grandfather's widow, who married William Newton. There are a number of carved stones from Lewes Priory in the grounds.

Opposite the Grange is the chapel of the Hospital of St. James, Southover, which is now converted into a cottage. The internal dimensions are 34 ft. by 15 ft. The walls are flint-faced and to the north and south retain on each side two single-light mid-14th-century windows, with ogee heads and trefoil cusping. There was originally a three-light window with perpendicular tracery in the east wall, and the infirmary hall extended west of the chapel to the end of St. James's Lane.⁸ The Red House, south of the hospital, has a number of carved stones from Lewes Priory built into its cellar. West of St. James's Lane are the walls of the pound, with peephole squints still in position.

'Anne of Cleves House' (called formerly 'the Porched House') is now the Folk Museum of the Sussex Archaeological Society.⁹ It is built partly of brick and flint and partly of oak framing. The roofs are covered with Horsham stone and tiles. It is an L-shaped building, the southern section of four roof-bays, abutting on the west on a range of six bays at right-angles to it. The western of the four southern bays forms a hall from floor to roof, the east and west walls being framed with heavy timbers of king-post construction, and having moulded beams above door height and at eaves level. North and south are two plastered coves, over which the upper moulded beams return; they correspond to a similar cove externally on the south elevation at eaves level. In the south wall is a large oak window of fifteen lights, five lights above, below, and between the two transoms, the central range being a restoration. The second bay is occupied by a large



part of Southover Without was added to Lewes and the rest to the parish of Iford.⁶

Southover possesses several buildings of interest. The Grange, which lies at the foot of Keere Street, is faced principally with Caen stone and was built by William Newton,⁷ steward to the Earl of Dorset, in 1572, when the Lords' Place (the manor-house in the priory grounds) was destroyed by fire. It consists of a central hall (modernized), 22 ft. 6 in. by 19 ft., with a wing at each end, both of which project westwards towards the street and have stone gables. The space between the wings in front of the hall is now filled with a modern vestibule, but above this on the south face of the northern wing is a panel containing a shield of the Newton arms carved in high relief. The two wings also project to the east, the northern extending for some distance, with a north stone gable to the staircase. An additional modern block projects south-

¹ *Lewes Chart*, i, 14.

² *Ibid.* 3.

³ Cf. Lewis, *Top. Dict.* (1831) under Lewes.

⁴ *Ex inf.* Mr. F. Bentham Stevens.

⁵ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934), 414.

⁶ *Ibid.* 414, 519. The area of Southover Without was 328 acres of land and 2 of tidal water.

⁷ He came from Cheshire about 1544. The Grange (at one time called 'The Priory') remained in the hands of his descendants until the second half of the 19th century: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 314-36.

⁸ Plan and view in Grose's *Antiquities*. The hall was 110 ft. x 36 ft. There was a 'tenement called the Gatehouse', perhaps

part of the hospital, in St. James's Lane which had already fallen down at the beginning of the 17th century: Add. MS. 32683, fol. 10.

⁹ For a detailed description of this house, which was given to the Society by Mr. Frank Verrall of Southover Manor, see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxx. 1-19.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

chimney-stack serving a fireplace in the hall, a passage and a stair to the north communicating with the first floor of the eastern part of the house. In front of the passage, built out into the road, is a two-story porch of flint and stone chequer work below and timber above with the initials I. S. and the date 1599 cut in the arch spandrel of the stone entrance door. Beneath the hall, approached by a stone stair under the flight already mentioned, is a cellar roofed with a roughly semi-circular barrel vault of chalk and flint. From the evidence of the remains of the stone doorway at the foot of the stair it seems probable that this cellar belonged to a 14th-century house which preceded the present one. Apart from the Elizabethan porch and west wing, the existing structure dates from the early 16th century, and it was most likely constructed from old material at the date of the dissolution of Lewes Priory. The third bay eastward is very wide (15 ft.) and was at one time divided into two rooms, back and front. It has a good stone fire-place with moulded jambs, shaped above in the form of double corbels, which support a moulded four-centred arch. The eastern bay on the ground floor formed a carriage-way to the rear of the building. The upper floor in the two eastern bays projects over the street and is of early-16th-century framing, tiling on the south. To the north the building projects beyond the posts of the trusses and the roof is carried down to a lower eaves. There is an original Tudor window of four lights with moulded oak mullions in the east gable. The west wing is of Elizabethan date, but its southern portion of two bays is a re-modelling of an older wing of the medieval building. It overhangs the street on the first floor. There is a large chimney-stack between this section and the four northern bays, the floors of which are on a different level to the former. The ground floor of the north part is built of thick walls of flint and stone with a six-light window to the west and an open fire-place with chimney-beam. The first floor is one large room, and its area is increased by a 3-ft.-6-in. overhang to the west, lit by a series of small lights, till recently unglazed. The room is lighted to the north by an oak window having five lights below and nine above the transom, there being two wing-lights on either side beyond the jambs. The second floor is also one room, now open to the roof but formerly ceiled. The walls are all timber-framed with heavy story-posts to each roof-truss. In the roof are curved wind-braces. This room has a similar north window to that below, except that the centre part projects forward beneath the fascia of the gable. Close by in the east wall is a four-light oak window similarly projecting. There are also windows in the west wall, including a projecting window of three lights below and three above the transom, which is roofed externally with a small gable having a much decayed carved barge-board and pendants. A staircase addition has recently been made to the north wing on its east side, the staircase being that from the demolished Moat House in Lewes High Street.¹⁰

At the west corner of Potters' Lane, which bounds Anne of Cleves House, is a group of early-16th-century cottages with half-timber work in their upper stories and arched contemporary doorways. At the west end of Southover High Street on the north side is an Elizabethan house with a flint and stone gable to the south, and three stories with stone mullioned windows. The house is merely a shell, having been incorporated in

the adjoining brewery, but in the building east of it, which is tile-hung, is a small Elizabethan oak stair.

The remains of the Cluniac *LEWES PRIORY* priory of St. Pancras, in Southover, are fragmentary and are now divided by the line of the Southern Railway from Lewes to Brighton, which cuts across the site of the high altar of the priory church and across the chapter house. It was the construction of this line in 1846 which laid bare the foundations of the church, and the information gained at that time, supplemented by later digging, enabled Sir Wm. St. John Hope and Sir Harold Breakspear to produce a plan of the monastery.¹¹

Close to the east wall of Southover parish church are the remains of the *Great Gate* of the priory. It was a square building with two adjacent archways in its west wall and a stair-turret at the north-west angle. The southern arch was approximately 10 ft. wide and the northern 5 ft. The south jamb of the former arch survives, and shows that it was of four orders, each with a shaft, moulded base, and capitals. The material is Sussex marble; the free shafts have disappeared, but the capitals, bonded into the masonry, show square abaci and stiff-leaf foliage, and the hollow mouldings have carved leaf ornament. The smaller archway has been re-erected at the west end of Priory Crescent and now shows a two-centred pointed archway. An 18th-century drawing by Lambert represents it as semicircular and the span of the arch has been evidently reduced. The date of the gatehouse, which must have been a building of great importance and beauty, is about 1200. Portions of its southern wall still exist, bounding the parish churchyard, and there is part of an archway in this wall at right-angles to the entrance.

The only remains *in situ* of the *Priory Church* are the southern wall of the south-west tower and a portion of its west return. The masonry shows signs of the subsidence caused by the underpinning of John Portinari, the engineer who threw down the church at the order of Thomas Cromwell.¹² Only the inner face of the tower wall is visible, with a moulded stone bench on which stand the shafts and moulded bases of the five arches forming a wall arcade. Part of the south respond of the tower arch may be seen, and of the shafts in the south-west angle, the whole of the work being in Caen stone. Portions of the foundations of the south wall of the nave are visible, and from excavations in the adjoining churchyard the same wall has been found to extend westwards, which may indicate a narthex on the scale of Cluny and its dependent churches in Burgundy. The church had a nave of eight bays (clear of the two western towers), double transepts with a choir of four bays between them, each western transept having two eastern apsidal chapels, and each eastern transept one. East of the latter the church ended in a chevêt of five apsidal chapels. The internal dimensions were: nave (including tower) 215 ft. by 70 ft.; eastern arm: length including transepts, &c., 210 ft.; width across western transepts 150 ft., eastern transepts 102 ft.

The *Cloister*, which measured (including the alleys) 145 ft. by c. 100 ft., has gone, but beneath the ground is a small domed chamber which marks the site of the circular lavatory above, an independent building that projected from the south alley into the cloister garth. The lavatory was an elaborate structure of marble, remains of which are preserved in the lapidary room of the Museum of the Sussex Archaeological Society.

¹⁰ See *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxviii, 67.

¹¹ *Ibid.* xlix, 66-68.

¹² *Ibid.* 76.

THE SOUTH VIEW OF LEWIS PRIORY & CASTLE, IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX.

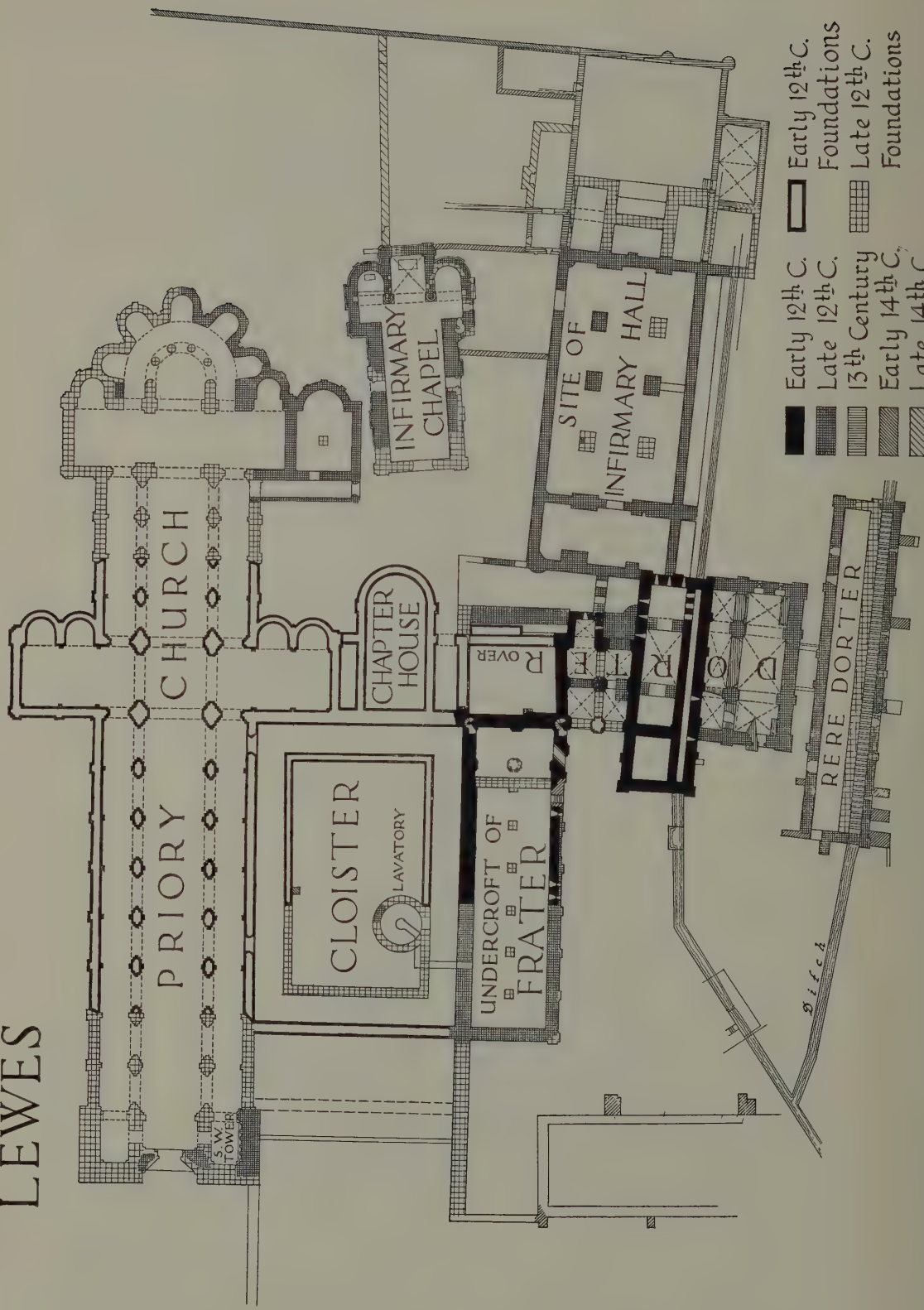


To Edward Trayfon Esq:
 Proprietor of this PRIORY
 This Prospect is gratefully Inscribed by
 his most Obedt. Servt.
 Jam. G. Heath. Buck.

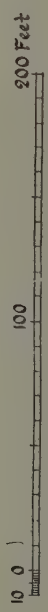
THIS Priory was founded A.D. 1178, by 11 m. to the North East of Lewes, in the County of Sussex. It was a Benedictine Monastery, and had many noble benefactors viz. of succeeding Counts of Barry & others, several of whom with their ladies were here buried. It contained a Guild of the Holy Trinity, an Augustinian, &c. &c. & was made independent of the Bishopric of Exeter, & was granted with all its Appurtenances, valued at 2500 l. by the Pope in 1250. In 1547, Edward VI. gave it to the University of Cambridge, & was built by some of its monks. With a church, & several houses, &c. &c. The Castle was built by some of the monks. The Priory was one of the most famous for its beauty, & the ruins were one of the most beautiful in the Kingdom. It was burnt down by the soldiers of Henry VIII. in 1547.

LEWES PRIORY: THE RUINS, FROM THE SOUTH, 1737

PRIORY OF ST. PANCRAS LEWES



- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Early 12 th C. | Early 12 th C. |
| Late 12 th C. | Foundations |
| 13 th Century | Late 12 th C. |
| Early 14 th C. | Foundations |
| Late 14 th C. | |
| 15 th Century | |
| 16 th Century | |



They include spiral shafts of varying design, bases for twin shafts with spurs at the angles, and a portion of the central laver, which was enriched with an arcade of semicircular arches. The domed chamber may represent the head of a well or the site of a cistern and pump for filling the laver above. It communicated with the sub-vault of the frater by a vaulted passage that proceeds west and then turns at right angles south. It is now cut off by the railway embankment.

The *Frater* floor was level with the cloister, but the fall in the ground gave occasion for a sub-vault of six bays, with five piers down the centre. These have disappeared, but three bays of the south wall at its eastern end exist to a considerable height and are marked by external buttresses. In the western of these bays are two double-splayed windows, the openings being very narrow, with semicircular heads, while the splays both within and without are unusually wide. The ashlar facing to the wall stops at a height of four courses above the arch stones, with a chamfered set-off worked on the third course, and above this the frater wall is faced with regular herring-bone courses of small unworked stones. This technique, together with the double-splays to the windows, would normally suggest an 11th-century date, but may be a survival of early building methods. It seems clear that at some date in the 12th century the cloister was enlarged towards the west and that at the same time the frater was extended and remodelled, a fact to be borne in mind in connexion with the presence of this early type of masonry and also the irregularity of plan noted below. Another double-splayed window lights the easternmost of the five bays under description, and to the east of this are the plain stone jambs of a doorway, which retains most of its western reveal.

East of this undercroft is a vaulted compartment of a bay and a quarter, evidently the eastern part of the earlier undercroft of the first frater, since it is in line with the east wall of the cloister. It retains two spiral staircases, one at the NE. and the other at the SE. angle, the latter being intact for some height. The south wall of this undercroft continues beneath the dorter range, with responds of the main arches of the vault.

The site of the *Dorter* is occupied by a number of vaulted compartments beneath its floor level; and here again is evidence of extensive replanning and enlargement late in the 12th century. The first dorter, which was probably over the chapter-house and the remainder of the east claustral range, projected southwards beyond the frater over a vaulted room with a free central pier and with a small eastern chamber projecting from its north-eastern compartment. The dorter terminated against the old rere-dorter, a building measuring 95 ft. by 25 ft. inside and lying east and west. Considerable remains of this building survive, since it was incorporated in the later extension of the dorter; it is divided into six bays by buttresses on its south face and has clasping buttresses at the angles. The vaulted drain runs within its south wall and was contained by a parallel wall to the north. The external masonry shows herringbone work, and the vault beneath its eastern end is lighted by three windows to the north and three to the east, beside three openings into the space above the drain.

The later and enlarged dorter (internally some 70 ft. wide) was carried over the old rere-dorter, and was aligned with its eastern wall. It was continued two bays farther south, the western part of the rere-dorter

remaining as a projecting extension. A new rere-dorter (measuring 158 ft. by 24 ft. inside) was built to the south, with a clear space of 10 ft. between it and the dorter, the two being linked by a stone bridge. This building, though unroofed, is largely intact and is an interesting example of its kind. It is constructed like the earlier one with a wide stone paved drain contained within the south wall and another wall parallel to it on the north. The drain is vaulted before it enters and after it leaves the building and passes under arches in the end walls. At first-floor level the area over the drain was occupied by 60 cubicles, divided by walls which were carried on arches across the drain space. The remaining area on both floors formed a long hall, the lower one being possibly the laundry of the priory. There are in the walls long internal cavities which are supposed to have been filled at one time with bond timbers, but the probability that they communicated with the interior suggests that they contained lead water-pipes, and this may be confirmed by the fact that they have evidently been further opened out when the priory was robbed of its materials. The rere-dorter is divided externally to the south by buttresses into four bays, in the centre of each of which was a large square window, with one recessed order, for ventilating the space above the drain. The masonry of these and of the angle buttresses at the east end is in beautiful condition, all cut from fine squared Caen stone. The whole building had, however, settled towards the south, owing to the swampy nature of the ground, and a number of heavy buttresses faced with flint and stone chequerwork were added, probably in the 14th or 15th century.

Abutting on the east side of the dorter was a large aisled *Infirmery Hall*, with additional buildings to the east of it, all of which are known only by their foundations. There are, however, important remains above ground of the *Infirmery Chapel*, which stands just south of the east end of the priory church. This chapel follows the plan of the mother house of Cluny by being independent of the infirmary hall, orientated differently from the monks' Church, and in having a triple east end, this last feature being also found at Souvigny. The difference in orientation may be due (as has been surmised at Cluny) to its being on the site of the original church of St. Pancras given by the founder. The extreme internal length is 100 ft. and the nave is 29 ft. wide. The chancel is square-ended, but the lateral chapels each terminate in an apse; the altar-pace remains in the chancel, and in the north chapel the stone altar itself has been preserved. The walls of the chapel were thrown down by John Portinari by the same methods of under-pinning that were used for the church, but the masonry held together and much of the ashlar facing is in fine preservation. An aumbrey in the north wall of the chancel is visible, together with the angle-shafts which carried the vault, and a fragment of an internal moulded string-course with pellet ornament is still in position. The newel and bottom treads of a spiral staircase can be traced at the junction of the south chapel with the nave.

The only other building of which traces remain is one that projected southwards from the west end of the frater range. They consist of the core and part of the facing of three of its buttresses, showing diaper work of flint and stone, and probably belong to the 15th century.

Just east of the priory ruins is 'the Mount', a mound some 45 ft. in height, the top of which is reached by a

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

spiral path.¹³ Nothing is known as to its origin; but the fact that it adjoins 'the Dripping Pan', a large sunken rectangular piece of ground surrounded by banks, may point to there having been a salt-pan here, since in Essex such pans are accompanied by mounds,¹⁴ perhaps for windmill-pumps.

To the south-west of the monastery lay the great pigeon-house, a cruciform building about 80 ft. in length and breadth, which survived until early in the 19th century.¹⁵

At the time of the Domesday Survey there *MANOR* were 44 haws or burgages in Lewes, pertaining to the manor of Rodmell (q.v.), which may possibly have constituted, then or later, the suburb of Southover¹⁶ to the south-west of the town. These burgages belonged to William de Warenne in 1086.¹⁷ In about 1095 his son, the second William de Warenne, gave the land called Southover, with two ponds and mills, to the newly founded priory of St. Pancras,¹⁸ for which it provided the site, as well as forming the manor of *SOUTHOWER*, which remained the property of the priory until it was surrendered in 1537 to the Crown.¹⁹

In 1538 the manor of Southover and the site of the dissolved monastery were granted to Thomas Cromwell.²⁰ After his fall Anne of Cleves was given the manor and 'borough' of Southover, in 1541,²¹ and these returned to the Crown after her death in 1557.²² The manor was conveyed to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, in 1582 by John Stempe and his wife Anne,²³ and descended, along with the site of the priory, in the family of the Sackvilles, Lords Buckhurst and Earls of Dorset.²⁴ Richard Sackville, 3rd Earl, died in 1624, holding the manor of the king in socage.²⁵ The site of the priory of St. Pancras was also held of the king, but by knight's service, and to it pertained the 'Southey', the 'Ryes', the 'Hammes', and the 'Broches'.²⁶ Richard's widow Anne and her husband, Philip, Earl of Pembroke, were still holding the manor in 1643,²⁷ but it passed subsequently to the Earl of Dorset's elder daughter and coheir Margaret,²⁸ who in 1629 had married John Tufton, Earl of Thanet.²⁹

Their descendant, Thomas, Earl of Thanet, with his wife Katherine, sold the manor and site to Nathaniel Trayton in 1710.³⁰ He died in 1715, and his elder son Edward Trayton devised the manor to Samuel Durrant by will, and died in 1761.³¹ Samuel Durrant of Lewes died late in 1782, having devised the manor to his cousin, Samuel Durrant of Robertsbridge, surgeon, who died in 1783.³² His second son Samuel left it in 1822 to his son John Mercer Bosville

Durrant, who was lord in 1835.³³ Subsequently William Verrall bought Southover Manor with all rights, and died at the Manor House in January 1890 in his 92nd year,³⁴ and from him it has descended to Mr. Frank Verrall, the present lord.

The site of the dissolved priory of St. Pancras was leased in 1539 for 21 years by Thomas Cromwell to Nicholas Jenney, and this lease was confirmed in 1540, after Cromwell's fall, by Henry VIII.³⁵ The site was subsequently owned by the Earls of Dorset (see above).

It appears probable that the church of *CHURCH ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST* was originally the *hospitium* at the gate of the Priory of St. Pancras and that it was converted into a parish church in the 13th century when, possibly, the new Hospital of St. James was built close by.³⁶ It consists now of a nave and chancel without structural division, a south aisle, west tower, and a modern southern extension which includes the Gundrada Chapel and a vestry.

The oldest part of the fabric is the arcade to the aisle, which is carried on large drum-like piers of the latter half of the 12th century. There are four of these piers, the westernmost, although now engaged with the west wall, having once stood free; so that the arcade must have had at least five arches, and it may have originally divided the building into two parallel aisles or wards, each with an altar at the east end. There are now three perfectly plain semicircular arches carried on the simple circular abacus of the pier capitals, with two further arches eastward, one a 15th-century arch of two orders completing the nave, and the easternmost a modern arch south of the chancel. The 15th-century arch and its pier are said to have been moved from a position across the aisle. The chancel is modern and the north wall of the nave, though of 14th-century build, is very much restored. Only a small portion of the tracery of one of its two-light windows is original. The west wall of the nave is also of the 14th century and retains its contemporary doorway leading into the tower. The south wall is mid-16th-century, as well as the west wall of the aisle, both being post-dissolution work, having fragments of the priory built into the masonry. They are constructed of a chequerwork of stone and flint and towards the south are three three-light and one four-light windows under four-centred heads and hood-moulds. The external door in the west wall of the aisle is a two-centred arch within a square moulded frame.

The tower fell down in 1698; it was rebuilt as high as the belfry stage in 1714 and completed in 1738.³⁷ It is faced with brick, with battlemented parapet and a string-course below it. It has a stone plinth and regular quoins of stone on its north face. At its western angles are large diagonal buttresses of sandstone, which may belong to an earlier tower but were adapted to the structure, for one bears the inscription W. Stephen



DURRANT. *Saltirewise or and ermine a cross paty gules.*

¹³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxiii, 223-4.

¹⁴ *Trans. Essex Arch. Soc.* N.S. xviii, 27-54.

¹⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xl, 270-1; *Suss. Co. Mag.* vi, 287.

¹⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 436a and note.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ *Lewes Chart.* i, 20; *Anct. Chart.* (Pipe R. Soc.), 11.

¹⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 426.

²⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII.* xiii (1), g. 384 (74).

²¹ *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32); *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 247.

²² *Ibid.*

²³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 412. John Stempe occurs as lord of the manor in 1580: *Add. MS.* 39502, fol. 274.

²⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 412; *ibid.* xxxiii, 206; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), cccxi, 110; *ibid.* cccxii, 128; *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 422-4, and see under Rape above.

²⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 412; *Ct. of Wards, Inq. p.m.* lxxi, 59.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), di, 24.

²⁸ Aged 9 in 1624: *Ct. of Wards, Inq.*

p.m. lxxi, 59.

²⁹ *G.E.C. op. cit.* (1st ed.), vii, 388.

³⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 412-13; *Add. MS.* 39502, fol. 278.

³¹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 216; *Suss. N. & Q.* iii, 251-2; *Add. MS.* 39502, fol. 278, citing Burrell MS. 5684.

³² *Add. MS.* 39502, fols. 279-80.

³³ *Ibid.* fols. 280-1; Horsfield, *loc. cit.*

³⁴ *Add. MS.* 39502, fol. 275.

³⁵ *L. and P. Hen. VIII.* xvi, g. 305 (70).

³⁶ See *Suss. N. & Q.* i, 201-3; and see below.

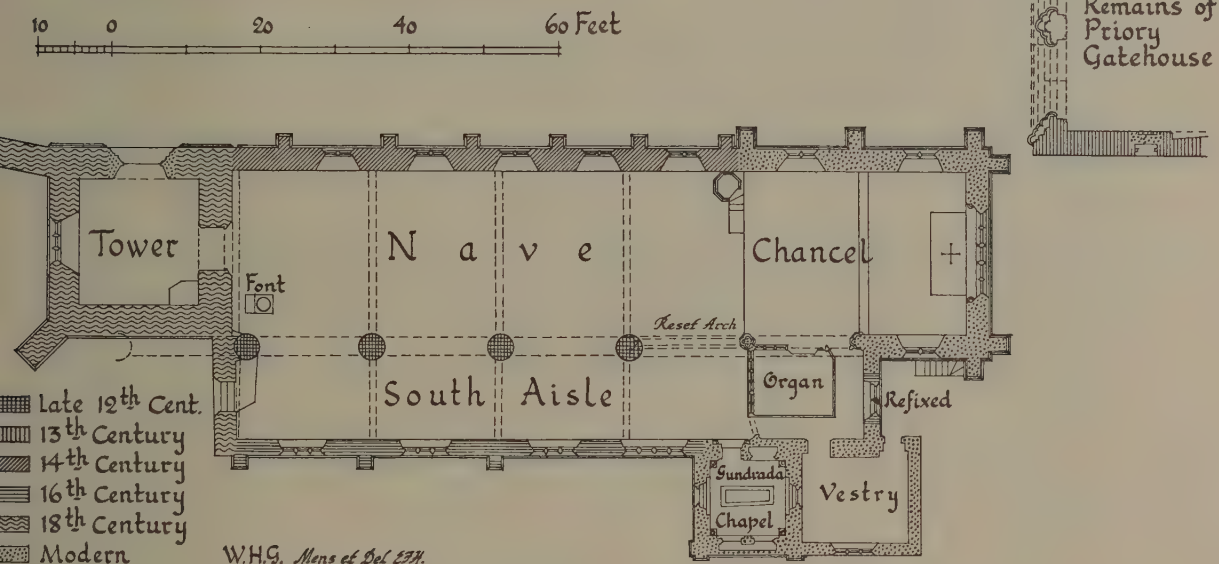
³⁷ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 294.

1714. The belfry stage has plain square openings and in the west wall in the ground stage is a three-light window similar to those in the south aisle. The north door is modern. The tower walls in their upper stages are of chalk inside the building. The roof is surmounted by a small octagonal cupola, tile-hung and domed in lead. There is a lofty weather-vane with a large copper fish. In the external walls of the tower are set four carved stones. On the west is a date-stone with the year 1714 and the initials of Nathaniel Trayton, lord of the manor, and also a medieval shield of the checky coat of Warenne. On the south is a Tudor rose and crown, and on the north a stone with a mitre over a shield with

MORV • MARTIR. . . [F]VIT • MISERIS • FVIT • EX • PIETATE.
• MARIA • PARS • OBIT • MARTHE • SVFEST • PARS • MAGNA •
MARIE • O • PIE • PANCRA TI • TES[TIS • PIE]TATIS • ET •
EQ[VI] • TE • FACIT • HEREDĒ • TV • CLEMENS • SVSCIPE •
MATREM • SEXTA • KALENDARV • IVNII • LVX • OBVIA • CAR-
NIS • IFREGIT • ALABASTRV. . .

The stone had been removed from Lewes Priory and used in the monument of Edward Shirley at Isfield Church. It was discovered by Dr. Clarke, rector of Buxted, and was removed to Southover Church in 1775 at the expense of Sir William Burrell. Seventy years later, in cutting the Lewes-Brighton railway, the lead cists containing the bones of William and Gundrada

PARISH CHURCH of ST. JOHN the BAPTIST SOUTHOVER



the letters I.A.P.L., presumably the initials of John Ashdown, Prior of Lewes. Adjoining the north-east angle of the church are the remains of the gateway to Lewes Priory (q.v.).

The nave retains its medieval roof trusses, with tie-beams, king-posts, and curved struts. The fittings are modern, with the exception of the font, which is of uncertain date.

The most interesting monument in the church is the memorial to Gundrada wife of William de Warenne, which is now preserved in a modern chapel built on to the south aisle. It is a slightly tapering coffin-lid of black marble, carved with two long bands of ornament consisting of bunches of stiff-leaved foliage within curved stems of anthemion form linked by animal's heads. An inscribed band surrounds the slab and traverses the spine. The lower part of the stone is a restoration and the base is modern. It dates from the latter part of the 12th century and was no doubt executed on some occasion requiring the re-entombment of the remains of William and Gundrada. The inscription is as follows:

+STIRPS • GVNDRADA • DVCV • DEC[VS] • EVI • NOBILE •
GERMEN • INTVLIT • ECCLESIA • ANGLORV • BALSAMA •

³⁸ *Monumental Effigies of Sussex* (2nd ed.)
130. See also *Suss. Arch. Coll.* i, 43.

were discovered on the site of the Chapter House. The cists are preserved in this chapel, the remains being buried under Gundrada's tombstone. They measure respectively 2 ft. 11 in. and 2 ft. 9 in. long; both are 12½ in. wide and are from 8½ to 9 in. deep. They are ornamented with a fret-work pattern and are inscribed respectively WILLEMS and GUNDRADA.

The other objects preserved in the chapel include the torso of a marble effigy of a man in armour of the late 13th century, discovered in the Priory ruins during the excavations of 1846. Dr. Mosse³⁸ describes it as follows: "The figure is arrayed in complete mail (rings set edgeways) and a surcoat; kite-shaped shield, damaged; guige; cross-belted sword lies parallel with the shield, its pommel high up, level with the armpit; the bawdric horizontal with ordinary buckle fastening. The left arm is bent upon itself, the hand flat on the breast. The figure was formerly coloured, of which traces remain; surcoat blue, bawdric and guige red, with some gilding; the mail gilt."

There is a royal coat of arms of George III.

There are eight bells, re-cast in 1839.³⁹

Among the Communion plate is a cup and paten of the late 17th century, and a paten dated 1709.⁴⁰

³⁹ *Ibid.* xxxvii, 197.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* liv, 231.

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The registers date from 1558, and there is a Churchwarden's Book of accounts (1574-1725).

The chapel of St. John the Baptist *ADVOWSON* outside the gate of the monks of Lewes⁴¹ seems to have been originally built within the precincts of the priory for the use of non-monastic worshippers, and to have been transferred to the *hospitium*⁴² at the gate of the monastery between 1257 and 1263.⁴³ It was then a rectory in the patronage of the prior and convent of Lewes, who surrendered it to the Crown in 1537.⁴⁴

The advowson was granted to Thomas Cromwell in 1538,⁴⁵ and after his fall seems to have been retained by the Crown⁴⁶ and later transferred to the Lord Chancellor. It was sold in 1863 to the Rev. John Scobell, then rector, and he left it to his son Sanford G. T. Scobell.⁴⁷ By 1915 the patronage had been acquired by the Church Pastoral Aid Society,⁴⁸ who still hold it.⁴⁹

Elizabeth Ballard, by will dated 17 *CHARITIES* June 1608, gave an annuity of £4 for the relief of the poor of Southover. The endowment is represented by 8 acres of land called the 'Meadow', situate at Stoneham, and land containing 2 acres 2 roods, being part of Broyle Park, let at annual rents of £20 and £5 respectively.

Barnham's Charity. By an indenture dated 26 June

1620, Martin Barnham charged land known as Bulbrooke's with a yearly rent charge of 40s. to be distributed among the poorest people of the parish. The endowment now consists of £83 13s. 5d. Consols producing an annual income of £2 1s. 8d.

These two charities are now administered, under a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 21 January 1870, by a body of trustees.

The St. James's Charity. By an indenture dated 19 July 1867 land with the buildings thereon situate in Southover was conveyed to trustees the rent thereof to be distributed among the poor of the parish. The land is now let for £23 per annum, which is distributed in coal to poor inhabitants. Trustees are appointed by order of the Charity Commissioners.

Henry Cecil Sotheran, by will proved 29 December 1928, gave £500 in augmentation of the rectory of Southover. The income, amounting to £25 2s. 8d. per annum, is paid to the rector.

Blunt's Charity. A sum of about £5 per annum is received by the churchwardens in respect of this charity and distributed in coal to poor inhabitants.

Henry Smith's Charity. This parish receives yearly its proportion of the rent-charge on an estate at Tolleshunt D'Arcy, in Essex. The amount, which varies from year to year, is distributed in kind.

⁴¹ *Lewes Chart.* i, 93-4. Cf. *ibid.* ii, 111.

⁴² This may account for the parish being described in about 1260 as St. John the Baptist and St. Mary Magdalene: *ibid.* i, 99.

⁴³ *Suss. N. & Q.* vi, 51; *Cal. Pap. Lett.* i, 404.

⁴⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 426.

⁴⁵ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74). It was not given to Anne of Cleves

after Cromwell's fall.

⁴⁶ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.); *Clergy Lists*.

⁴⁷ *Add. MS.* 39339, fol. 45.

⁴⁸ *Clergy Lists*.

⁴⁹ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

THE HUNDRED OF SWANBOROUGH

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

IFORD KINGSTON NEAR LEWES

AT the time of the Domesday Survey, the Hundred of Swanborough comprised the vills of Iford, Ashcombe, and Winterbourne; Ditchling was also assigned to this hundred, but probably in error.¹ By 1296 Ditchling was definitely in Streat Hundred, and Swanborough then comprised Iford, Kingston, and Westout.² This arrangement continued in the 14th century,³ but by 1624 the hundred was divided as at present, into Iford and Kingston, St. Mary Westout being then included in the borough of Lewes.⁴

The hundred was granted to William de Warenne after the Conquest, and descended with the Rape. Originally the constable was chosen by turn out of each borough, but by the 17th century there was none left in Westout sufficient for the task, and so the election fell between the other two boroughs.⁵ The office was abolished in 1860.⁶ The hundred alderman, at least in modern times, held his office for several years together. The hundred leet court formerly met twice yearly at Kingston,⁷ but this had ceased to be the custom in the 19th century. The court, which was then held once every year, on Easter Monday,⁸ met, in 1834, at the Lamb Inn, Iford, and, in 1860, in which year it was abolished, at the Running Horse Inn, in St. Anne's, Lewes.⁹

¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 435, 438, 443. Ashcombe House and Winterbourne are now in the parish of St. Anne Without, Lewes.

² *Suss. Subsidies* (Suss. Rec. Soc. x), 48.

³ *Ibid.* 168-9, 282-3.

⁴ Horsfield, *Suss.*, i, 104: cf. *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 138-41; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 75-6.

⁵ For the organization and customs of the hundred see *Bk. of J. Rowe*, loc. cit.; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 124; Parl. Surv. Suss. no. 7, m. 12; Abergavenny Coll. 56 (at Lewes).

⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 124.

⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 124.

⁷ Parl. Surv. Suss. no. 7, m. 12.

⁹ Abergavenny Coll. 56 (at Lewes).

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

IFORD

Niworde (xi cent.); Iuorda (xii cent.); Hyford (xiii cent.); Iford (xiv cent.).

The parish of Iford, which lies about 2 miles south of Lewes and 4 miles north-west of Newhaven, formerly had an area of 2,200 acres, including 116 acres detached from the parish, and 2 acres of water. The population in 1931 was 194. Since 1934, however, by the East Sussex Review Order, part of the parish of Southover Without has been added to Iford. The subsoil of the parish is chalk and the chief crops are wheat, oats, and pasturage.¹

The high road from Newhaven to Lewes, running parallel to the river, traverses the parish. The area between the road and the river consists of a large expanse of marshland called the Brooks. It is drained by an elaborate system of sewers, and is used as pasture-ground for cattle. On the western side of the highway the land rises steeply to over 600 ft. at Swanborough Hill. In this part of the parish there is much rich arable land and some downland. By an Inclosure Act of 1830, 2,405 acres of common land in Iford and Kingston were inclosed.² There are a number of tumuli in the parish. One, on Front Hill, a spur of Iford Hill, was recently opened, and was found to be of the Bronze Age,³ and on Heathy Brow, along which runs the boundary between Iford and Rodmell, was a considerable settlement of the same period, tumuli and fields being still visible.⁴ Burials have also been found on Bird Brow in this parish. The village lies in two portions, a short quarter of a mile apart, between the river and the main Lewes-Newhaven road. The two halves are each joined to the main road by side lanes, and another joins the ends of these. Norton, the northern half of the village, contains the church, and the southern, Sutton, possesses the manor-house. Norton and Sutton both contain old cottages and each has a large farm. The present manor-house is a late-19th-century sham-Tudor building standing between the two halves of the village. Immediately to the south of it is an ancient building which appears to be the original manor-house. Until a year or two ago it was in nearly perfect condition, but it has recently been remodelled and turned into three cottages and is now known as Sutton Cottages. It is a building of the end of the 16th century, showing, externally, flint facing with stone dressings, and has three rooms running south-west and north-east, the former being the upper end. The south-east or entrance front is in perfect condition except for the windows, which have all had their stone mullions removed. Between the hall and the upper parlour is a large stack serving both rooms, between which and the entrance front is a lobby containing the front door, which has a segmental head and is all in good stone-work, with a label-mould over, having a rather coarse ovolo moulding, returned as stops. Over the door is a two-light window. The hall is lit by a four-light window and the parlours have each a three-light. The windows on the upper floor match those below. All the windows retain their label-moulds and some of those in the gables have a mullion or two remaining. At the back of the house, an outshut aisle passes along the whole length of the

house, but this has recently been raised and remodelled to provide accommodation on the upper floor. The old front door is now blocked up, and three new doors have been cut in the back wall of the house. No old fire-places remain, but the chamfered and stopped beams of the ground-floor ceilings may still be seen in some of the rooms.

Swanborough Manor House⁵ is an L-shaped building, of which the northern block is medieval and probably constituted a grange of Lewes Priory, forming the administrative centre of the monastic farms in this district, and the southern dates from about the time of the Dissolution. In the northern block the original hall, lying east and west and measuring internally 37 ft. by 15½ ft., was built about 1200. To this period belong the masonry of the lower portion of the walls, a circular window in the west gable, slightly encroached upon by a later, 15th-century, window, and one lancet window in the north wall; this lancet is chiefly made of hard chalk, and the chamfer of the rear-arch has nail-head stops near the springing. The position of the original doorway in the north wall, about 10 ft. east of the end of the hall, is marked by the remains of the external relieving arch. In the 15th century the walls were raised and a floor was introduced, supported by heavy oak joists, tenoned into four transverse beams, two of which were moulded, but one has had to be renewed. Of the windows inserted at this time, three remain in the north wall; one on the ground floor is of two lights, with cusped trefoil heads, under a square hood-moulding, the other two, on the first floor, are similar but have sunk spandrels over the shoulders of the lights. In the south wall, on the first floor, are traces of a similar window, apparently of four lights, enlarged from two. At the west end of the north wall, at first-floor level, is a blocked 15th-century doorway which led either to an external stair or to the upper chamber over a porch to the entrance below. The large chimney-stack in this wall, containing a stone fire-place on each floor, has been rebuilt above the eaves, and the lower portion contains pieces of carved stones, possibly from the Priory, suggesting a reconstruction after the Dissolution.

At the lower (west) end of the hall are two, instead of the usual three, doors. Of these the southern opens on to a newel stair in a narrow 15th-century two-storied gatehouse, the ground floor containing an archway in the centre between this staircase and, probably, another stair on the west; above was a passage which led to a western wing both from the upper part of the stair and from a doorway in the upper hall, or dormitory; at some period the windows in this passage were blocked and it was converted into a dovecot, with nesting-boxes of chalk blocks. The northern door opened from the hall into a single-story room, presumably the buttery, covered by a span roof with tie-beams resting on three carved corbels which still remain. At the upper (east) end of the hall in the centre of the wall is a doorway with a four-centred head, and north of this a pierced quatrefoil looking into the former chapel.⁶ The side-walls of the chapel are of the 15th

¹ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

² Slater, *Eng. Peasantry and the Encl. of Common Fields*, 302.

³ *Suss. N. & Q.* iv, 70.

⁴ *Ibid.*

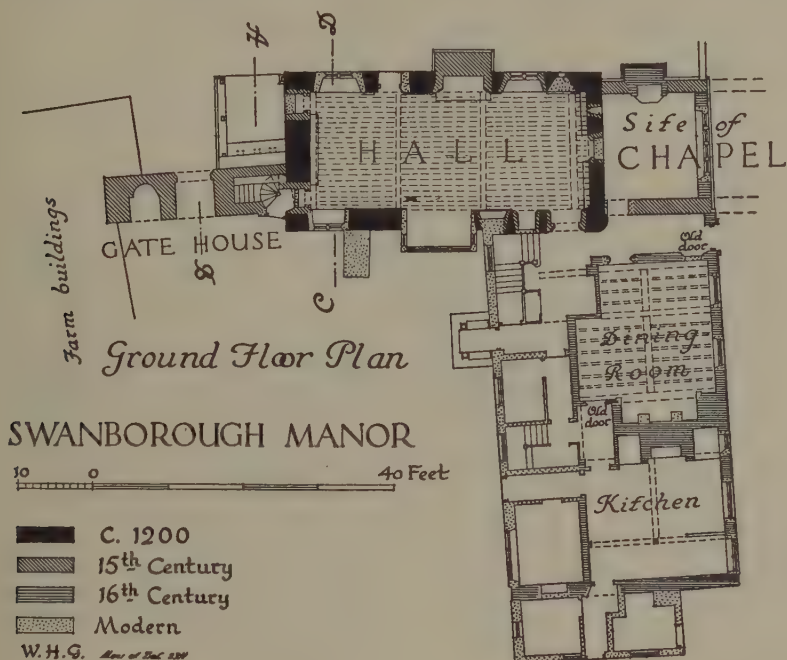
⁵ This account is condensed from an article by Walter H. Godfrey, F.S.A., in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxvii, 3-14.

⁶ A charter of Bishop Seffrid II (1180-1204) refers to the chapel of Swanborough, which was presumably on the same site at that time: *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 254.

century, and that on the north contains a single-light window with cinquefoiled head, while on the south is a doorway leading from the south wing into what would have been the gallery. The east wall is later and there is no evidence for the former length of the chapel. In the 16th century a floor was inserted and a chimney-stack was built against the north wall.

In the fine 15th-century roof of the upper hall each rafter is trussed by a pair of moulded curved braces, giving the whole an arched or cradled form. The timbers are grooved for thin boards between each pair, but these have disappeared and the spaces are now plastered. The roof of the chapel portion is of king-

Iford, as one of the three boroughs of the hundred of Swanborough,⁸ paid a common fine of 8s. annually.⁹ In the 17th century there were 64 yardlands in the parish and each paid 3d. yearly towards the fine, except the Court farm, containing 16 yards, which paid 3d., and Stuckles, containing 8 yards, which paid 8d. A penny was paid for every cottager.¹⁰ The surplus of the money thus raised was given to the Headborough for his pains. In addition, the alderman of the hundred, in return for the money which he disbursed for the hundred twice every year at the sheriff's tour, and for his pains, was allowed five sheaves of wheat in Iford, levied from certain tenements.¹¹



post construction, possibly a re-use and certainly incomplete. At either end of the hall are now fixed the upper traceried parts of two fine oak screens, of different designs but each of five bays of three panels. Probably one of these formed part of the normal screen at the lower end of the hall, and the other may have served to separate the upper hall, or dormitory, from the chapel.

Doors from the hall and chapel led into a south wing. This is now mainly of the early 16th century, either just before or just after the Dissolution. It contains a quantity of fine oak timbers and two good door-cases with solid moulded frames and arched heads. The whole building has recently been put in repair for the present owner, Mr. Cecil A. H. Harrison.

The Iford and Kingston National School, built in 1871, stands upon the main road, near to the village.

Among the people connected with Iford is Dr. John Delap (1725-1812), poet and dramatist, who was appointed to the united benefices of Iford and Kingston in 1765. He did not, however, reside in the parish, as he preferred to live at South Street, Lewes.⁷

The original manor of Iford which *MANORS* Queen Edith, the wife of Edward the Confessor, held before the Conquest, was a large one covering an area of 77½ hides.¹² After the Conquest, part of this, lying in the rape of the Count of Mortain, was cut off.¹³ Of the rest, William de Warenne held a large part in demesne; 6½ hides were held by the monks of St. Pancras, Lewes; 2 hides by Hugh son of Golda; and 1½ hides by Tosard, who later gave them to Lewes Priory on becoming a monk there.¹⁴

The earl's demesne land formed the vill of Iford and descended with the rape as the manor of Northease *cum* Iford (q.v.).¹⁵

The 2 hides held by Hugh son of Golda formed the manor of *IFORD*, and the overlordship of this manor and of the rest of the 7 knights' fees held by his successors, the Plaiz family, descended with the rape, falling in 1439 to Lady Bergavenny.¹⁶ Her descendants were still overlords in 1543.¹⁷

Hugh son of Golda was succeeded by his son Hugh, whose connexion with the family of Plaiz is not known.

⁷ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁸ *Parl. Surv. Suss.* no. 7.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Bk. of J. Rowz* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 139-40.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 435.

¹³ *Ibid.* note 6.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 435-6, 380.

¹⁵ In Rodmell parish, Holmestrow Hundred.

¹⁶ In Iford and Wapsbourne (1242-3):

Bk. of Fees, 690; later described as in Wapsbourne, Chailey, Iford, and Worth: *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 18 Hen. VI, no. 28. Cf. *Feud. Aids*, v, 161.

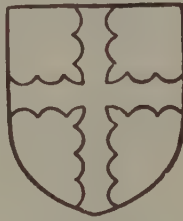
¹⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), lxxv, 48, m. 2.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

A Ralph de Plaiz was living about 1140, and Hugh son and heir of Ralph de Plaiz is found about 1150 (or later?).¹⁸ A Ralph occurs again in 1177 and two Ralphs, father and son, about the same time;¹⁹ one of these seems to have died about 1194, leaving a nephew, also Ralph, who died about 1204.²⁰ Hugh de Plaiz owned the manor in the first half of the 13th century.²¹ He died in 1244 and was succeeded by Richard de Plaiz his son by his first wife Philippa de Munfichet,²² but in 1256 his third wife and widow Alice claimed a third of Iford and other manors as her dower. No Sussex manors were conceded to her.²³ Richard died in 1269²⁴ and was succeeded in turn by his sons Ralph and Giles. Ralph died in 1283²⁵ and the manor of Iford was granted in dower to his widow Isabel²⁶ who subsequently married John Marmion²⁷ and would appear to have been still holding it in 1302,²⁸ since it is not included among the lands of which Giles de Plaiz died seised in that year.²⁹ Richard son of Giles was, however, seised of the manor at his death in 1327, holding it with its members Warningore, Wapsbourne, and Worth as half a knight's fee.³⁰ His eldest son Giles died in 1334 while still a minor and in 1344 Richard brother of Giles obtained livery of his lands,³¹ dying 'in parts beyond the seas' in 1360.³² He had previously alienated his Sussex manors to Sir John de Sotton and others for their lives, with reversion to himself and his heirs.³³ Richard's son John died in 1389 holding no lands in Sussex,³⁴ nor were they held by his daughter Margaret, wife of Sir John Howard, at the time of her death in 1391.³⁵



PLAIZ. *Party or and gules a lion passant argent.*



DALYNGRIGGE. *Argent a cross engrailed gules.*

By 1396 the manor of Iford was in the hands of Sir John Dalyngrigge, of Bodiam,³⁶ who died without issue in 1417, having settled it on his cousins, the sons of Walter Dalyngrigge.³⁷ Sir John's widow, Alice, held

the manor in dower until her death in 1443,³⁸ when it passed to Richard Dalyngrigge, her husband's cousin, who died seised of it in 1470.³⁹ His heir was Roger Lewknor, son of his sister Philippa,⁴⁰ and from him it descended in the Lewknor family,⁴¹ being held by Sir Roger Lewknor in 1538 and at his death in 1543.⁴² Iford was then, apparently, held in third shares by his daughters by his third wife, namely, Katherine Mill, Mabel Stapley, and Constance Foster, afterwards Glemham.⁴³ Mabel's son died in infancy,⁴⁴ and though in 1587 Lewknor Mill, son of Katherine by her first marriage, was dealing by fine with one-third of the manor,⁴⁵ in the next year the manor appears to have been held in moieties by Katherine and Constance or their heirs.⁴⁶

Sir John Mill,⁴⁷ son of Lewknor and grandson of Katherine, was dealing by fine with a moiety of Iford in 1628,⁴⁸ and in 1666 his son, also Sir John, conveyed this half to William Lane.⁴⁹ It remained in the Lane family⁵⁰ until 1716, when William Lane and Elizabeth his wife sold it to Francis Zouch.⁵¹ In 1743 the Rev. Charles Zouch and his wife Dorothy quitclaimed it to William Grover.⁵² It was doubtless this moiety that John Ellis and Catherine his wife sold to Richard Hurley in 1786.⁵³

Meanwhile, in 1588, Constance and her second husband, Edward Glemham, quitclaimed their moiety to Richard Lewknor, Arthur Salwey, and Thomas Bate-man⁵⁴ probably for purposes of a settlement on Anthony Foster, son of Constance by her first husband, to whom it returned in 1623.⁵⁵ In 1651 Morgan Jeffereyes, one of the coheirs of Foster,⁵⁶ conveyed a sixth part of this moiety to David Jeffereyes.⁵⁷ He, in 1660, sold it to Thomas Rogers,⁵⁸ whose family later acquired other portions of the manor, possibly including a ninth share held in 1719 by John Ade.⁵⁹ In July 1784 Henry Ade was called lord of the manor, as was Samuel Marshall in September of that year,⁶⁰ and Richard Hurly and Thomas Rogers in 1791.⁶¹

In 1810 the lords of the manor were Richard Hurly, Thomas Rogers, and Samuel Snashall.⁶² Afterwards, in 1824, Thomas Rogers sold his share, consisting of a ninth, a sixth part of a moiety, and a twelfth part of the manor, to Henry Hurly,⁶³ who, in 1835, was said to hold five-sixths of the manor, while Mrs. Snashall had the rest.⁶⁴ Henry Hurly died in 1837 and the manor descended to Mary Elizabeth, his niece, the wife of the Rev. Robert Rosseter, subsequently passing to James

¹⁸ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 334, 335; *Chart. of Lewes* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xl), 37.

¹⁹ Ibid. 51, 53.

²⁰ Farrer, op. cit. 335.

²¹ Ibid; *Bk. of Fees*, 690; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. vii), 607.

²² Farrer, op. cit. 336.

²³ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. vii), 607.

²⁴ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* i, 711.

²⁵ *Cal. Fine R.* i, 194; *Cal. Pat.* 1281-92, p. 113.

²⁶ *Cal. Close*, 1279-88, p. 253.

²⁷ Add. MS. 39373, fols. 181, 191.

²⁸ John Marmion was in that year holding an Essex manor of Richard son of Giles: Farrer, op. cit. 338.

²⁹ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* iv, 121.

³⁰ Ibid. vii, 49.

³¹ Ibid. viii, 499.

³² Ibid. x, 598.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ *Cal. Inq.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 104; *Cal. Fine*, x, 293.

³⁵ Ibid. 295; xi, 46; *Cal. Inq.* (Rec. Com.), iii, 136.

³⁶ *Cal. Close*, 1392-6, p. 499; cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 287. In 1412 Iford, Wapsbourne, and Warningore were said to be held by Joan Dalyngrigge: *Feud. Aids*, vi, 526.

³⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 21 Hen. VI, no. 52; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 287.

³⁸ Ibid. She was at one time the wife of Sir Thomas Boteler.

³⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 9 & 10 Edw. IV, no. 6.

⁴⁰ Ibid.; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 287; Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 149-50.

⁴¹ Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* iii, 96; *Rot. Parl.* vi, 245b, 273a.

⁴² *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 445; *Inq.* (ibid. xiv), 652; (ibid. xxxiii), 8.

⁴³ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 652; (ibid. xxxiii), 8; Comber, op. cit. 151.

⁴⁴ They were infants at his death and the wardship was granted in 1546 to Sir Henry Knivet: *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xxi (1), g. 970 (60). Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.*

lxviii, 280.

⁴⁵ Ibid. iii, 96.

⁴⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 461.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ *Visit. Hants.* (Harl. Soc.), 158-60.

⁴⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 152.

⁵⁰ Ibid. 87.

⁵¹ Cf. *Streat*.

⁵² *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 87.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Ibid. xx, 461.

⁵⁶ Ibid. xix, 241.

⁵⁷ Cf. Camoys Court in Barcombe.

⁵⁸ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 426.

⁵⁹ Ibid. xix, 241.

⁶⁰ Ibid. This share may, however, have descended to the Hurleys who were related to the Ade family by marriage.

⁶¹ Gamekeepers' Deputations, Lewes.

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ Drake Coll. Lewes (DR. 131).

⁶⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 241.

⁶⁵ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 199.

Rosseter, who died in 1866, and his wife. Mrs. Ridge-Jones later bought the manor. The manor-house is now the property of Dr. H. R. Andrews, but all manorial rights have lapsed.

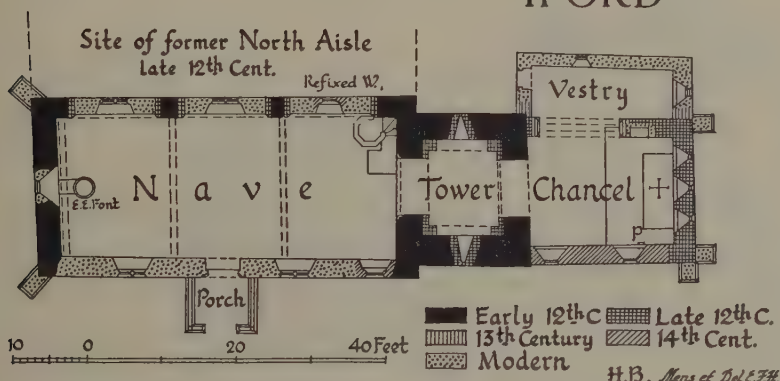
The Priory of St. Pancras, Lewes, held 6½ hides in Iford for which no geld was paid.⁶⁵ In about 1145 William III of Warenne gave to the monks a further 2 hides which William son of Godwin had held, and they also received the temporary grant of 2 hides formerly held by Guy de Menchecourt.⁶⁶ In about 1100 Ralph de Plaiz granted to them the church of Iford, and in about 1140 his son Hugh gave the mill and 'the site of the place there with ways and paths'.⁶⁷

The manor of *SWANBOROUGH* is not mentioned in Domesday Book, but before 1087 William de

if put to any charge on account of the contract.⁷⁶ In 1584 John Caryll and his uncle Edward sold the manor to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst,⁷⁷ who eight years earlier had acquired from the Earl of Derby his ½ of the barony of Lewes, with which the manor continued to descend.⁷⁸ Reginald Windsor, 7th Earl de la Warr, was seised of the manor in 1879.⁷⁹ The manor house is now the property of Mr. C. A. H. Harrison, but all manorial rights appear to have lapsed. The custom of Borough English prevailed in the manor.⁸⁰

The church of *ST. NICHOLAS* stands *CHURCH* at the north corner of the village, overlooking the wide expanse of The Brooks. The 'Niworde' of Domesday possessed a church. The present building has a nave and chancel, between which is a tower, possibly formed by raising the original

PARISH CHURCH of ST. NICHOLAS IFORD



Warenne gave two plough-lands in Swanborough, with the villeins, to Cluny,⁶⁸ the mother-house of the Priory of St. Pancras. In about 1089 the gift was described as 5½ hides,⁶⁹ and the grant was confirmed to the Priory of Lewes by successive holders of the barony of Lewes.⁷⁰

The manor remained in the possession of the priory until the Dissolution,⁷¹ and in February 1538 the king granted it to Thomas, Lord Cromwell,⁷² who already, by August 1536, had written to the Prior of Lewes urging him, in vain, to lease the manor to him.⁷³ After Cromwell's attainder in 1540, the manor, together with 40 cart-loads of wood hitherto let to farm with the site and demesnes and to be yearly gathered in the wood called Homewood, was, in May 1541, granted to William, Earl of Arundel, in exchange for certain manors sold to the Crown.⁷⁴ In 1555 his son, Henry, quitclaimed the manor to the king and queen.⁷⁵

Thomas Caryll died in 1566, holding the manor of the queen in chief by service of the fifth part of a knight's fee. It was then worth £53. By his will he appointed that it should descend to his grandson, John Caryll, when he became of full age, and that in the meantime Edward Caryll should receive the issues of the manor so that Robert Keyelweye, who was bound with him [Thomas] in the Court of Wards, might be indemnified

chancel. The nave has a south porch, and once had a north aisle; the chancel has a north chapel. The nave and original chancel appear to date from the early or middle 12th century. The present chancel was added at the very end of the same century, when the tower was built and a north aisle added to the nave. The north chapel dates from the end of the 13th century.

The exterior shows flint facing with stone dressings. The east end of the chancel is lit by three lofty narrow windows each of a single round-headed light, their heights being the same. Above these windows is a plain circular light high up in the gable.⁸¹ The buttresses are all modern. The south wall of the chancel is lit by two single-light windows with trefoiled ogee heads, apparently of the 14th century. The north chapel seems to have been rebuilt in modern times, and shows no old features externally. The lower walling of the presumed original chancel may be clearly seen in the ground stage of the present axial tower. The eastern quoins are visible, and the straight joint between them and the present chancel shows the difference in date. The old chancel was very much out of the square, and the tower had to be twisted as it was raised to enable it to attain a rectangular plan at the roof level. This twisting was effected by curious set-offs on each face, commencing

⁶⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 380, 435-6.

⁶⁶ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.),

i, 31.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.* ii, 37.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* ii, p. xix.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* i, 4.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.* i, 10; ii, p. xx.

⁷¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 426.

⁷² *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74).

⁷³ *Ibid.* xi, 215, 373, 448, 583.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.* xvi, g. 878 (93).

⁷⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 302.

⁷⁶ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iii), 37.

⁷⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 427.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxix, 136.

In 1620 John Vinall held the manor farm of the Earl of Dorset: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxix, 120.

⁷⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 138.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.* vi, 186-7.

⁸¹ These windows were entirely blocked and invisible in 1849 (*Arch. J.* vi, 140), but seem to have been unblocked in 1865: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 150.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

at one angle and dying away before the next was reached. The ground floor of the tower is lit by a single late-12th-century light on either side, the only other window being a similar one in the east wall of the belfry. The tower has two plain string-courses, and is capped by a steep pyramidal roof covered with shingles. Most of the south wall of the nave seems to be modern. There are two two-light windows, having the south doorway between them, all modern, as is the porch covering the doorway. The only old feature in this wall is its easternmost window, a single 14th-century light with a trefoiled head. The west wall has modern diagonal buttresses at the angles and a single narrow light with an obtusely pointed head. The north wall



IFORD CHURCH

of the nave shows the blocked arcade which led to the destroyed north aisle. It consists of three pointed arches cut through the pre-existing wall, which was left, where required, to form the piers. The soffits of the arches have a small chamfer, stopped above the impost moulding, which is a simple chamfer, hollow and roll, not carried across the faces of the piers, which are chamfered and stopped to match the arches above. Two two-light windows have been inserted in the filling of the two westernmost bays, while the third is a single trefoil-headed light similar to that on the opposite side of the nave.

The interior of the chancel shows the splays of its three eastern windows, and, in its north wall, the low, wide arch leading to the north chapel. This arch is segmental-pointed of two heavily chamfered orders, the inner being carried on figure-head corbels, the westernmost of which is trenched. It appears to be of the end of the 13th century, but the chapel to which it leads, now a vestry, has been rebuilt in modern times. Within the tower-space, the walls of the original chancel can be seen on either side, pierced with the two 12th-century lights mentioned above. These side walls have been thickened to carry the tower above by inserting two lofty semicircular arches, with plain soffits and

springing from simple imposts, quirked and hollow-chamfered, these imposts being carried round across the east and west arches of the tower and across its east wall, but not across the side walls of the old chancel. The cracked plaster suggests that these arches are not bonded into the walls of the latter. The east and west walls of the tower are very thick. The eastern arch is plain except for a roll-moulding round the western edge of its soffit, and one vousoir of the western arch, opposite, has on it a roll-moulding never carried round the arch. The western face of this arch shows two roll-mouldings, the outer plain, and the inner curiously embellished with intermittent chevrons. Below this arch, the piers, originally plain, have been recut with nook-shafts

in modern times.⁸² There is a modern sham-Norman aumbry in the north wall of the chancel, and, opposite, in the south wall, a very small and simple piscina, having a square projecting bowl, and a plain semicircular head over. The nave has little to show internally except the blocked north arcade. The window splays all appear to have been renewed, and the south door is modern. The nave roof has three tie-beams, each having a king-post with caps, bases, and curved struts. The roof itself, however, appears modern, as is that to the chancel. The font has a central shaft and four surrounding shafts, supporting a bowl which shows rusticated tooling and appears to have been refaced in the 17th century. The base is circular and

modern, but the simple Attic bases of the surrounding shafts show the 13th-century origin of this font.

The tower contains three ancient bells, invoking Saints Botolph, Katherine, and Margaret respectively.⁸³

The church possesses a communion cup with the mark for 1674; a paten cover of the same date, but mostly modern repair; a silver flagon of 1864, presented in that year by Ruth Hurly; and a Sheffield plate alms-plate.⁸⁴

The registers date from 1654.

The building was restored in 1868, when the north arcade was discovered and opened, and traces of mural paintings, now no longer visible, were exposed.⁸⁵ The church was again restored in 1874. A notable feature of the churchyard is the pair of ancient elms which frame the west end of the church.

The church of Iford is a vicarage, *ADVOWSON* united since 1666 with the rectory of Kingston near Lewes.⁸⁶ In 1291 the church was valued at £12 and the vicarage at £10,⁸⁷ and in 1535 it was assessed at £10 10s. 2d.⁸⁸ It was given to the Priory of St. Pancras, Lewes, by Hugh son of Golda,⁸⁹ and continued in their possession until the Dissolution, when it passed into the king's hands.⁹⁰ The king granted the advowson to Thomas Cromwell

⁸² See *Archaeological Journal*, vi, 140, for engravings of church and chancel arch.

⁸³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 150.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.* liv, 228.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.* xxix, 150.

⁸⁶ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

⁸⁷ *Tax. Eccl. (Rec. Com.)*, 136.

⁸⁸ *Valor Eccl. (Rec. Com.)*, i, 333.

⁸⁹ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 12, 21; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Feet*, iii, 334.

⁹⁰ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 427.

in 1538⁹¹ and, after his attainder, to Anne of Cleves in 1541.⁹² Anne died in 1557 and in that year the Bishop of Chichester presented.⁹³

In 1603 the patron was Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst,⁹⁴ who held the advowson of the king as of the manor of East Greenwich.⁹⁵ It continued in the possession of his descendants, the Earls of Dorset, until at least 1664.⁹⁶ In 1666 the living was united with that of Kingston near Lewes.⁹⁷

In 1690 Patience widow of John Forward, the late incumbent, presented Richard Owen,⁹⁸ whom she, or perhaps her daughter, seems to have married, as in 1727 the Rev. Richard Owen and Patience his wife sold the advowson to the Rev. Richard Davis.⁹⁹ The Rev. William Davis presented in 1732, as guardian of Richard and Jane Davis,¹ and Jane Weekes, sister and heir of Richard Davis, in 1764.² The trustees of Jane Weekes sold it in 1765 to David Walter Morgan,³ who

with his wife Mary conveyed it in 1772 to Francis Larmaudaye.⁴ In 1787 it was quitclaimed by Thomas Harben and his wife Elizabeth to Thomas Wyatt and Charles Stuart, and Wyatt's heirs.⁵ In 1812 James Warwick presented⁶ and in 1821 Mrs. Jackson did so.⁷ In 1822 John Starkie Jackson and his wife Elizabeth, with James Warwick and others, sold the advowson to Henry Hurly.⁸ Henry Hurly in 1835 devised it to Louisa his wife with remainder to his children and to Elizabeth Mary Skelton.⁹ Louisa Hurly and Elizabeth Skelton conveyed it in 1843 to Emeric Essex Vidal¹⁰ who in 1853 granted it to James Marmaduke Rosseter,¹¹ and he in turn in 1863 conveyed it to the Rev. Thomas Bedford.¹² Thomas Bedford sold it to James Hurly Rosseter in 1880.¹³ In 1895 it was acquired by Mrs. Louisa Ridley and in 1897 was held by Thomas Glyn Ridley.¹⁴ Thomas Henry Green acquired the advowson in 1911, and it is now held by his executors.¹⁵

KINGSTON NEAR LEWES

Kyngestona, Chingestona (xii cent.); Kyngeston (xiv cent.).

The village of Kingston lies at the foot of the Downs, in a long deep coombe, protected on its northern and western sides by high ranges of hills. It is rather more than a mile to the south-west of Lewes, and lies removed from the main roads. It can be reached by a lane which runs through Ashcombe Hollow from the Brighton road, or by Wellgreen Lane off the Newhaven road. A footpath which leaves the Newhaven road near 'Spring Barn' also leads into Kingston.

At the head of the village street, which is lined with old cottages, behind the church, stands the old house of Kingston Manor. This is a half-timbered structure, the date of which, mid-16th-century, is easily determinable, as it is partly built from material taken from Lewes Priory, destroyed in 1538. The house is of four bays, the centre two being the hall, which has a parlour at each end, the bedchambers being above on the first floor. The front faces north-east, and the present entrance, believed to be on the site of the original, is at the north corner of the hall. At the opposite corner of the hall is the site of the original fire-place, now completely remodelled; this and the fire-place of the adjoining parlour, now entirely blocked in, are set side by side in a very large external stack, built against the south-west side of the house. This stack is entirely built of ashlar and carved stones from Lewes Priory,¹ and has a curiously carved band from the same source. The house is built on upturned Norman capitals from the priory, one of which has been exposed at the east angle, and another, removed when a bay window was built to the upper parlour, is used as a mounting-block in the stable yard. The house appears to have had the usual outshut pantry on the south-west side, north of the stack, but this was removed about 1700 and replaced by a new wing with a good staircase. The upper

parlour was remodelled at the same time and the old fire-place blocked up. The hall and lower parlour still show their old chamfered and stopped beams, and the latter has had a fire-place added to it, in the end wall, in the 18th century. Beneath the lower end of the house are cellars, some of which are blocked up.

On the south-east side of the village street, opposite the church, stands the manor-house of Hyde Manor. Although the front to the road is of the 18th century, with a good front door and hood, the interior still retains traces of the original half-timber structure, which was of the usual three-room plan, lying south-west and north-east, the latter being the upper end. The upper parlour has been remodelled, but portions of the old beamed ceilings remain in the other two ground-floor rooms. All the fire-places have been remodelled, and it is doubtful whether the entrance is in the original position. The upper floor and the roof have been altered beyond recognition: a 17th-century wing contains the kitchen and offices, and at the opposite end of the house is a 19th-century drawing-room. Beneath the lower parlour is a cellar, and under the kitchen is another, apparently older than the work above it.

Three-quarters of a mile north of the church, on the Brighton road, is a small circular structure of brick, with a frieze, cornice, and conical dome, all of brick, dating from about 1800.² New houses are being built along the road from the village towards this point, and along the ridge between it and the end of the village street, which is also being extended towards the Lewes-Newhaven road.

Westward of the village the land rises to a height of over 600 ft. at Kingston Hill and Newmarket Hill. From the flat top of the former, of which W. H. Hudson writes in *Nature in Downland*, there is a splendid view over the fields and meadows of Kingston and Iford, or northwards towards the wooded Weald. A bridle path,

⁹¹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII.*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74).

⁹² *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

⁹³ Add. MS. 5698, fol. 127.

⁹⁴ *Misc. Rec.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iv), 12.

⁹⁵ *Inq.* (*ibid.* xxxii), 214.

⁹⁶ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁹⁷ Add. MSS. 39337, fol. 100.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 240.

¹ Add. MS. 39338, fol. 25.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 240.

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 240-1;

Add. MS. 39469, fol. 181.

⁹ *Ibid.* fol. 181v.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* fol. 182.

¹¹ *Ibid.* fol. 182v.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ *Ibid.* fol. 184.

¹⁴ *Ex. inf.* the Rev. A. Gordon Green, son of Mr. T. H. Green.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, plate opp. p. 142. 'A large underground chamber' is alleged to have existed in the gardens: *ibid.* 142.

² Although this is in the parish of St. Anne's Without, it is said locally to have been the Kingston lock-up.

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called Jugg's Road, crosses Kingston Hill and Newmarket Hill, following the crests of the hills, from Lewes to Brighton. The Downs in this neighbourhood are dotted with tumuli and mounds in which flint implements and urns containing human remains have been found. On the lower slopes of the Downs there is rich arable. Fruit also is grown. Higher, where the ground is covered with turf and patches of furze, sheep are pastured. The part of the parish east of the Newhaven road is flat and marshy and is used as grazing ground for cattle.

The ancient parish had an area of 1,676 acres,³ but in 1881 33 acres were included for local government purposes in the municipal borough of Lewes, and in pursuance of the Local Government Act (1894), these became Kingston Urban.⁴ In 1934, by the East Sussex Review Order, a further part of the parish was transferred to the borough of Lewes.⁵ The population of the parish at the census of 1931 was 259.

By an Inclosure Act of 1830, 2,405 acres in the parishes of Kingston and Iford were inclosed.⁶ Until recently Kingston Windmill and Ashcombe 'six-sweep' mill stood on the ridge overlooking the village.⁷

Formerly the courts leet for the hundred of Swanborough were held at Kingston.⁸

In the 17th century the common fine was 8s. per annum and was levied on copyhold and freehold tenements without respect to the size of the holding. Towards this fine every cottager paid one penny. The alderman of the hundred for his pains, and in satisfaction of the money which he disbursed at the sheriff's tourn twice every year, was allowed sixteen sheaves of wheat levied on certain lands within the borough. By ancient custom, Bishop's Dyke had to be scoured and Drinker's Bridge, Middle Bridge, and Wish Bridge repaired by the borough.⁹

Kingston is not mentioned by name in *MANORS* Domesday Book, but between 1091 and

1098 William II of Warenne confirmed to the Priory of St. Pancras, Lewes, the tithe of 2 hides there,¹⁰ and a hide and a half which Ailwin of Winchester held in Kingston.¹¹ In 1095 William confirmed to them the gift of the church and 8 hides of land there.¹² William, the third earl, in 1138 gave a further 3 hides.¹³ In addition, one of the Earls Warenne gave half a hide in free alms and confirmed the gift of a hide of land made by Richard de Essarz.¹⁴

The Prior of St. Pancras was holding the manor of Kingston in 1316¹⁵ and in 1537, at the Dissolution, conveyed it to the king as the manor of *KINGSTON NEAR LEWES*.¹⁶ It was granted in February 1538 to Thomas Cromwell¹⁷ and after his downfall it reverted

to the Crown. From this time all traces of this land as a manor seem to disappear, but in 1540 the king continued and extended to Nicholas Jenney a 21 years' lease of tithe of corn in the parish and herbage for sheep and cattle among the cattle of the tenants of Kingston near Lewes, which grant had been originally made to him by Cromwell in 1539.¹⁸ In 1556 Richard Crane bequeathed to his son Peter a messuage and a garden of half an acre in Kingston near Lewes, held of the queen in socage, as of the late priory of Lewes.¹⁹

Meanwhile, what seems to have been a second manor of *KINGSTON NEAR LEWES* was in the possession of Richard, Earl of Arundel, at the time of his forfeiture and death in 1397.²⁰ It was straightway granted with the rest of the rape by the king to Thomas, Earl of Nottingham and Duke of Norfolk.²¹ No earlier traces of this manor have been found.²² It returned, with the rape, to Thomas, Earl of Arundel and Surrey, who was holding it in 1412.²³ Before he died in 1415 he granted the manor to trustees, who in 1423 obtained licence to grant two-thirds of it, after the deaths of John Hanslap and John Kelsale, tenants for life, to the Hospital of Holy Trinity, Arundel, which the earl had founded.²⁴ The remaining third, held by his wife Beatrice, Countess of Arundel, in dower, was to fall to the hospital at her death.²⁵

These lands came into the king's hands in 1546 on the suppression of the hospital and were granted, together with the other possessions of the hospital to Sir Richard Lee.²⁶ In November 1546, Lee was granted licence to alienate the manor to John and Richard Crane.²⁷ Richard Crane died seised of what was described as the manor of Kingston next Rottingdean, in 1556, holding it in chief of the Crown, and was succeeded by his son Peter.²⁸ Andrew Crane was in 1581 lord of a manor of Kingston to which pertained land in Rottingdean,²⁹ and in 1594 Peter Crane conveyed this manor to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst,³⁰ whose grandson Richard, Earl of Dorset, sold it in 1623 to John Morley.³¹

The manor subsequently passed to William Vinall,³² who was dealing with it by fine in 1663, and at his death in 1680-1, to his son William. In 1716 William Vinall and his wife Elizabeth, Thomas Simmons, and Stephen Heaver sold the manor to Francis Zouch.³³ The manor remained in the Zouch family until 1750-1, when the Rev. Charles Zouch and Dorothy his wife sold the manor to John Crouch.³⁴ Afterwards the manor passed to the Maitlands. Robert Maitland, the younger, and Elizabeth his wife held courts between December 1779 and July 1789.³⁵ Between September 1811 and October 1818 the manor was in the hands of

³ Suss. 6 in. O.S. (1st edit.).

⁴ *Ex. inf.* F. Bentham Stevens.

⁵ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

⁶ Slater, *Eng. Peasantry and Enclosure of Common Fields*, App. B, 302.

⁷ Ashcombe Mill was just in the parish of St. Anne's Without.

⁸ Parl. Surv. Suss. no. 7.

⁹ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 139-40.

¹⁰ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), i, 12.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 14.

¹² *Ibid.* 21.

¹³ *Ibid.* 29.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 35.

¹⁵ *Feud. Aids*, v, 135.

¹⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 426.

¹⁷ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g, 384 (74).

¹⁸ *Ibid.* xvi, g, 305 (70).

¹⁹ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiii), 56.

²⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. 21 Ric. II, no. 137, m. 11. In 1364 he had acquired from John de Foxele and his wife Agnes 8 messuages, 180 acres of land, 26 acres of meadow, and 52s. rent in various places, including Kingston: *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 2290.

²¹ *Cal. Pat.* 1396-9, pp. 209, 220.

²² It had not been among the manors settled by Richard's father on himself and his wife in 1366: *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 2332.

²³ *Feud. Aids*, vi, 502.

²⁴ *Cal. Pat.* 1422-9, p. 115.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xxi (1), g, 1166 (15).

²⁷ *Ibid.* xx (2), g, 476, p. 246; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 255.

²⁸ *Inq.* (ibid. xxxiii), 56.

²⁹ *Ibid.* 77.

³⁰ *Fines* (ibid. xix), 255. The story that Sir Philip Sidney held this manor in Elizabeth's reign is untrue. It appears to owe its origin to the fact that in the Rawlinson MSS. several pages are missing after the inquisition into the estates of Sir Philip Sidney. The next inquisition, almost certainly that of the Earl of Dorset, has lost its title, and therefore the Dorset estates have been understood to have belonged to Sir Philip Sidney.

³¹ *Ibid.*

³² *Ibid.* Cf. Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 101.

³³ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 255.

³⁴ *Ibid.* 256. The initials M.E.Z. with dates between 1703 and 1720 occur on cisterns at the manor-house: Horsfield, *Lewes*, ii, 152.

³⁵ Add. MS. 39472, fol. 124.

John Maitland, Ann Maitland, and George Wiltsher, the testamentary guardians of Robert Maitland, an infant.³⁶ Robert Maitland held courts in his own right in July 1825, 1826, and 1829.³⁷ He sold the manor before 1835 to the trustees under the will of Charles Goring of Wiston. In December 1837 the manorial court was held by Mary Goring and in October 1858 by the Rev. John Goring.³⁸

Although the manorial rights were allowed to lapse, the Goring family continued to own much land in the parish. The present owner of the manor-house, Sir Amherst Selby-Bigge, acquired it from a descendant of the Gorings in 1919.

In 1256 Alice, widow of Hugh de Plaiz, remitted her claim to one-third of a manor in Kingston in dower to her step-son Richard de Plaiz.³⁹ This has not been identified.

Half a knight's fee in Kingston was held of Earl Warenne in 1242-3 by Warin de Kyngeston.⁴⁰ John de Kyngeston held land there in 1296;⁴¹ Isabel his widow, in 1327,⁴² in which year Philip was an assessor, and Philip and Gilbert de Kyngeston in 1332.⁴³ In 1428 the heir of Philip Kyngeston was holding $\frac{1}{2}$ fee there.⁴⁴ What this represents it seems impossible to determine, but the overlordship may have formed part of Edmund Lenthall's share in the division of the rape, since in 1444 he was dealing with fees in places including Kingston.⁴⁵

The manor of *HIDE* or *HYDE* appears to have had its origin in land in Kingston held between 1296 and 1332 by Richard and Simon de la Hyde successively.⁴⁶ It appears, later, to have formed part of the knight's fee in Smithwick⁴⁷ and Kingston, held in 1439 by the heirs of Saer and Geoffrey de Rosey or de Roset, which was assigned in that year to the Duke of Norfolk's share of the rape.⁴⁸ The subsequent history of the overlordship, as of everything else connected with the manor, is confused, for while Thomas Michell towards the end of the 16th century paid his dues for wardship and marriage to the Earl of Arundel, in 1631 the lord of Portslade (q.v.) claimed that Michell had held the land of him as $\frac{1}{2}$ knight's fee.⁴⁹ Michell's successor, however, was still included among the free suitors of Lewes.⁵⁰ His lands called Le Hide were held as one knight's fee.⁵¹

The only members of the Rosey family whose connexion with the manor can be traced are William Drosey and Lucy, apparently his daughter, to whom he conveyed in 1338-9 the reversion of certain land and pasture in Kingston by Lewes, held for life by Ralph Rademelde.⁵² Subsequent holders of Hide in the late 15th century are said to have been the Gartons and the Hilders.⁵³ In 1567 Hide, here first called a manor, was

held by Thomas Michell of the inheritance of his mother, Mary Michell,⁵⁴ whose father probably married the daughter of the last Hilder.⁵⁵ He was still holding the manor in 1617⁵⁶ but was dead by about 1624.⁵⁷ He had married Jane, a daughter of John de la Chambre of Rodmell and Lewes⁵⁸ and at some date, vaguely described as 'in the times of James and Charles, kings of England', a John de la Chambre was said to hold these lands in Kingston as one knight's fee.⁵⁹ In 1630-1, however, Thomas Michell's widow Jane and her second husband, Stephen Ridge,⁶⁰ together with Jane's widowed sisters, Anne Alchorne and Elizabeth Scrase, and John Thorpe, probably the son of another sister, Mary,⁶¹ conveyed the manor to Anne's son, John Alchorne.⁶² For the next 150 years the history of the manor is difficult to trace,⁶³ for although courts of the manor are said to have been held in 1766, 1775, and 1777 to 1778, their holders, namely, John Crouch, Elizabeth Maitland, and Robert Maitland and his wife Elizabeth,⁶⁴ were lords of the manor of Kingston (q.v.). Moreover, the Alchornes reappear in possession in 1782, at which date William Alchorne and Elizabeth his wife, and Thomas Alchorne conveyed the manor to Thomas Rogers.⁶⁵ In 1825 Thomas Rogers and Thomas Attree Rogers and Mary Elizabeth his wife quitclaimed the manor to Thomas King.⁶⁶ Afterwards the manor passed to the Goring family, John Goring holding courts there from March 1864 to June 1879.⁶⁷ The manor-house, for all manorial rights have since lapsed, subsequently descended in the families of Howell, Rea, and Scrase-Dickens. It is now in the occupation of Captain Richard Kelly.⁶⁸

The church of *ST. PANCRA'S* stands *CHURCH* near the head of the village street, and on its north-west side. It consists of a nave, chancel, western tower, and south porch. The external wall-facing is flint rubble, and the dressings are of stone, which has, however, been largely renewed during restorations. The nave and chancel are broad and lofty, and appear to belong to the 14th century, but the tower is curiously small and slender, and may be of earlier date, though the absence of original detail makes it impossible to ascertain its period. The east window is of three lights with trefoiled ogee heads, above which is a pair of quatrefoils with another above, the whole enclosed within a two-centred arch and typical of the 14th century. There is a drip-mould with plain square stops. The lighting on both sides of the chancel is symmetrical. The easternmost window in each case is of two lights with a quatrefoil above beneath a two-centred head. Both have drip-moulds, that on the north finishing in plain stops, and the southern having figure-heads. On each side of the

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 200.

³⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. vii), 607.

⁴⁰ *Bk. of Fees*, 691.

⁴¹ *Subs.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. x), 48.

⁴² Ibid. 169. ⁴³ Ibid. 283.

⁴⁴ *Feud. Aids*, v, 161.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Pat.* 1441-6, p. 350.

⁴⁶ *Subs.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. x), 48, 169, 283; cf. *Bk. of F. Rowe* (ibid. xxxiv), 195, 206.

⁴⁷ In Southover; cf. Lewes.

⁴⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 18 Hen. VI, no. 28; *Bk. of F. Rowe*, 189, 192.

⁴⁹ Ibid. 195, 206.

⁵⁰ Ibid. 195.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 1867.

Saer de Rosey held land in Lewes and

Westout in 1295 and 1296: ibid. vii, 1098;

Subs. (ibid. x), 48.

⁵³ *Bk. of F. Rowe* (ibid. xxxiv), 195,

206.

⁵⁴ Add. MS. 39472, fol. 119; cf. *Suss.*

N. & Q. iii, 23.

⁵⁵ Cf. *Exch. Dep.* by Com. Mich.

18 Jas. I, no. 12.

⁵⁶ *Bk. of F. Rowe*, 206.

⁵⁷ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 92.

⁵⁸ Ibid.; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 142.

John died c. 1617.

⁵⁹ Comber, op. cit. 92-3; *Bk. of F.*

Rowe, 195. In 1620 one witness declared

that John de la Chambre was owner of the manor of Hide: *Exch. Dep.* by Com. Mich.

18 Jas. I, no. 12.

⁶⁰ Comber, loc. cit.

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² Ibid.; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 216;

cf. *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), dcccxxxix, 51.

⁶³ In 1702 Nicholas Uridge of Lewes

left the reversion of the manor, which he

had through his wife Anne, to his son

Richard. The latter predeceased Anne

(d. 1741) and left a daughter, Elizabeth,

who married John North; but she did not

apparently inherit the manor: Add. MS.

39495, fol. 405.

⁶⁴ Add. MS. 39472, fols. 119-20.

⁶⁵ Ibid.; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 216.

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ Add. MS. 39472, fol. 119.

⁶⁸ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

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chancel, near the nave, is a long window of a single trefoil-headed light with a low sill, apparently a pair of low-side windows.⁶⁹ The heads of these windows are in a brown sandstone, unlike the rest of the stone used in the church, and they have no drip-moulds. On the south side of the chancel is a small priest's door with a two-centred head, the stones of which do not meet at the apex, but are separated by a flint key-block. The nave is lit on each side by a pair of two-light windows similar to those in the chancel; the drip-moulds have simple stops, those on the north being slightly different from those on the south. The blocked north door has a two-centred head and its mouldings are a hollow chamfer and an ogee wave. The south door is similar and

reconstructions. The font is of unusual pattern, having a circular, heavily moulded bowl and a slightly narrower circular stem resting on a square base. It may be of the late 13th or early 14th century.

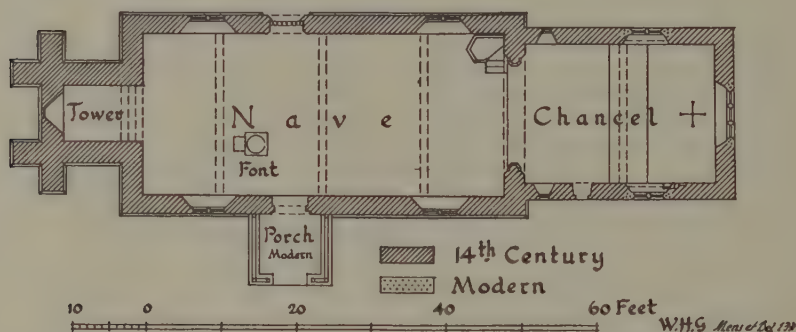
The communion table is Elizabethan, and at the west end of the nave is a fine Jacobean chest.⁷⁰

The tower contains three ancient bells, one marked with the founder's name, Walter Wimbis, and the other two invoking the Virgin and St. Anne.⁷¹

The church possesses a communion cup and paten with the mark for 1568; a chalice, paten, and flagon of silver, 1872-4; and a silver alms-dish of about 1700.⁷² The registers begin in 1654.

The building was badly damaged by lightning in

PARISH CHURCH of ST. PANCRAS KINGSTON NEAR LEWES



has a drip-mould terminating in stops similar to those of the adjoining windows. The door is protected by a modern timber porch on a stone base, which replaces an earlier simple stone porch. The tower is very plain. It has paired buttresses at its western angles, no set-offs, and a pyramidal shingled roof. The west window of the tower is a simple trefoil-headed light, that of the ringing-floor has a plain head, and single lancets light the north, south, and east walls of the belfry. A clock now obscures the eastern lancet.

The chancel windows have internal scionson-arches, but these are absent from those of the nave. The low-side windows have flat internal sills considerably lower than the sills of the windows themselves. In the south wall, just east of the larger window are two small ogee-headed recesses, the eastern and smaller of which is slightly higher than the other. They are too small to be aumbries and have no drains. The chancel arch is two-centred, and very wide and lofty, of two heavily chamfered orders with no capitals separating arch from imposts. The filled-in holes for the rood-beam may be seen. The tower-arch is plain, segmental-pointed, and has no imposts, springing from the side walls of the tower in the same fashion as may be seen in the late-12th-century tower-arches of neighbouring churches. The roofs of both nave and chancel appear to be modern

1865, and restored at that time, and again in 1874.

Peter the sheriff gave one acre of *ADVOWSON* land at Kingston for the building of the church and Hugh, sheriff of Lewes, was ordered by William II of Warenne to give the monks of St. Pancras seisin thereof to the use of the church.⁷³ This gift, together with the church, was confirmed to the monks by the same earl⁷⁴ and the church was held by the priory until the Dissolution.⁷⁵ The vicarage was endowed about 1190 by Seffrid II, Bishop of Chichester, with a messuage and 2 acres less one rood, adjoining the cemetery and meadow of the church: also all obventions to the altar except from the land of Warenne, and 12 semes of corn yearly to be received out of the barn of the monastery of St. Pancras.⁷⁶ In 1291 the church was valued at £14 13s. 4d. and the vicarage at £4 6s. 8d.⁷⁷ The living was valued at £8 13s. 9d. in 1535.⁷⁸

From the Dissolution the advowson appears to have descended with Iford, to which it was actually united in 1666.⁷⁹ By 1558 the advowson of Kingston is said to have passed into the hands of Richard Bakere and Richard Sackville.⁸⁰ In 1563 Richard Sackville was sole patron,⁸¹ and his son, Thomas, Lord Buckhurst, was patron in 1603.⁸² From this time the patrons are the same for both churches.

⁶⁹ See *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlii, 159, for mention of these in a paper by the late P. M. Johnston, F.S.A.

⁷⁰ Beneath the modern pavement in the chancel is a brass to Ann, wife of William Vinall, who died in 1667: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 147.

⁷¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 151.

⁷² *Ibid.* liv, 228.

⁷³ *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.*), i, 34.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.* 15, 21, 33.

⁷⁵ *Fines* (*ibid.* xi), 426-7.

⁷⁶ *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 253-4; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 152.

⁷⁷ *Tax. Eccl.* (*Rec. Com.*), 136.

⁷⁸ *Valor Eccl.* (*Rec. Com.*), i, 335.

⁷⁹ See above, p. 57.

⁸⁰ Add. MS. 5698.

⁸¹ Add. MS. 39338, fol. 16v.

⁸² *Misc. Rec.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* iv), 12.

THE HUNDRED OF HOLMESTROW

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

NEWHAVEN RODMELL
PIDDINGHOE SOUTHEASE
TELSCOMBE

THE Hundred of Holmestrow [Homestreu (xi cent.), Holmestre (xii–xiii cent.), Holmestrouhe (xiii cent.)] in 1086 consisted of Rodmell, Herbertinges (in Piddinghoe), and Orleswick.¹ In 1296 it was divided for purposes of taxation into two groups, the first unnamed, the second Meeching and Piddinghoe.² The divisions in 1327 and 1332 were Rodmell, Southease, and Meeching,³ and in 1621 Rodmell, Southease with Telscombe, and Meeching and Piddinghoe.⁴ At about this same period, however, the steward of Lord Bergavenny named as the four boroughs of the hundred, Rodmell, Middleborough,⁵ Southease with Telscombe, and Meeching with Piddinghoe.⁶

The courts leet of the hundred met twice yearly at Rodmell, at least until the middle of the 17th century.⁷ The constable of the hundred ‘for his better encouragement in the kinges service’ was allowed, during his year of office, to graze freely one bullock among the common herd of each of the four ‘boroughs’ from May-day until ‘Hollantide’. The farmers of Northease always undertook this charge for Rodmell.⁸ The constable was elected in turn from Rodmell, Southease, Middleborough, Meeching, Rodmell, Telscombe, Middleborough, Piddinghoe, and so to Rodmell again.⁹ The annual common fine was 12s. from Rodmell, 26s. 8d. from Southease and Telscombe, 3s. from Middleborough, and 20s. from Meeching and Piddinghoe.¹⁰ Towards this each yardland in Rodmell paid 3d. a year, in Southease and Telscombe 5d. a year, and in Meeching and Piddinghoe 4d. a year, while 2d. a year was due from each householder in Rodmell and Southease and the same amount from each cottager in Telscombe, Meeching, and Piddinghoe. Servants paid 1d. a year in Rodmell, Southease, and Telscombe. The headboroughs, in payment of their services, were to pasture cattle freely among those of their parishes, two bullocks for Rodmell, one bullock for Southease and Telscombe, in whichever parish the headborough dwelt, and a cow for Meeching and Piddinghoe.

Middleborough was probably in the neighbourhood of Deans, in Piddinghoe. The inhabitants were said in the 17th century to be few so that the burden of official duty fell heavily upon them. One man was known to have acted in the same year as constable and alderman of the hundred as well as headborough.¹¹

The hundred was held in 1086 by Earl Warenne, and descended with the Barony of Lewes.

¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 436a, 437a.

³ *Ibid.* 169–71, 283–5.

² *Subs.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. x), 44–5.

⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 76–7; cf. Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 103.

⁵ ‘Middelborch’ occurs as a tithing in 1278: Assize R. 921, m. 11. John Gentelman, tithingman of Middleborough, is mentioned in 1357: Lewes Castle Court R. (Norfolk muniments).

⁶ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 141.

⁷ *Parl. Surv. Suss.* no. 7, m. 12.

⁸ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 141.

⁹ *Ibid.* 142.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 141.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 142.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

NEWHAVEN

Mecinge, Mechyng, Mechynges (xiii cent.); Mychyng (xvi cent.); Mechinghamen (xvii cent.); Newhaven (1566).

Newhaven, now a town of importance because of its continental traffic, is situated on the right bank of the estuary of the River Ouse. It is about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Lewes and 9 miles east of Brighton. The last mile and a quarter of the river was recut and straightened in recent years, the original course having made a wide S-curve, the centre of which was just north of the present swing-bridge. A hundred yards to the west of this bridge is an older one, crossing the original river-course, and marking the site of the ancient ferry of Meeching. Its immediate predecessor was an iron bascule bridge, depicted on the tombstone of Tipper, a famous brewer, in the churchyard.¹ The old coast road descended the hills west of the church, past it to the bridge, across which it continued to join the main Lewes-Seaford road at Denton. Except for a deviation to allow of its crossing the swing-bridge over the new river-course, the road still takes this route. The main street of the town rises westwards from the old bridge towards the church on the hill, just below which it receives the main road from Lewes. At the foot of the street are the old wharves, lining the course of the old river as far as the new bridge, beyond which all is new. East of the river are the quays of the cross-Channel port, with its offices, custom house, and other associated buildings, including the maritime railway station, between which and the town station next the bridge are sidings and railway sheds. The houses of the town stretch for a quarter of a mile along the Lewes road and from it, across the present Brighton road, to the old road past the church. On the south side of the main street, side roads lead to the wharves on the right bank of the river, and towards the headland of Castle Hill, at the summit of which is a large fort erected in 1864. Below this is an esplanade terminating in a concrete breakwater half a mile long, corresponding to a much shorter one on the east side of the harbour. Both breakwaters have lighthouses at their extremities. Between the headland and the town are coastguard and life-boat stations. West of the church is a workhouse, and, half a mile along the Lewes road, a cemetery. The new church, Christ Church, was built in 1881, and the Roman Catholic church in 1898. There is a nunnery just to the east of the old parish church. There is a Congregational chapel, a Baptist chapel, and two Methodist chapels.

The hill behind the church, an outlier from the Downs, rises to just below 300 ft., and its slopes provide some pasture and arable land. Several ancient sites have been discovered in the west and south of the parish. Prehistoric middens were found when the fort was built on Castle Hill, on the site of earlier fortifications, probably of prehistoric date.² Roman remains have also been found there, as well as on farm-land to the west of the town, where the remains of a building were discovered.³

Several of the shops on either side of the main street are remodelled cottages of a much older date, and some

of the wharves and warehouses lining the right bank of the old river are probably of some antiquity. On the waterside just above the old bridge is a building having a lower story built in fine squared ashlar work, which looks as if it might be medieval.

A quarter of a mile south of the main street, on the road towards the headland, is Meeching Court House, which may be the manor-house of the old village. It is a two-storied building of squared chalk rubble with flint facing. The quoins and plinth-course are of brick, and most of the original windows remain with their cut-brick mullions, now covered with plaster. The building appears to date from the beginning of the 17th century. It runs north and south, the entrance front being on the east, facing the river. The main hall has a parlour to the north, the two rooms sharing the same internal stack, next which, towards the back of the house, is the square oak newel-stair. On the east of the stack is an entrance lobby, connecting the two rooms, and having in it a doorway with a four-centred brick arch, possibly rebuilt, but representing an original feature. The adjoining parlour has an open fire-place with a cambered chimney-beam, apparently a portion of the rib of a ship. The fire-place of the main hall is entirely covered with a modern surround enclosing a range. At the opposite angle of the hall to that occupied by the entrance door is an old doorway formed in a timber cross-partition, leading to a small closet, beyond which is another large parlour, the original east window of which has been replaced by a large 18th-century one. There is no old fire-place in this room, the existing stack being an addition. East of the lobby noted above is another which contains an 18th-century staircase, and, in its outer wall, another doorway exactly similar to that farther north. At the back of the hall and the north parlour is an outshot aisle, between which and the main rooms is a half-timber partition carrying the main roof. Under the south parlour is a cellar, access to which is from the lower end of the main hall and between the two small lobbies. An attic story has been formed in the roof, which has raking struts at intervals passing through the attic. The whole building is in bad condition, being half deserted and only used in part as tenements.

The parish of Newhaven has an area of 933 acres, including 26 acres of water.⁴ In 1881 part of Denton was brought under the control of the Newhaven Local Board which was then created.⁵ Since 1894 the town has been administered by an Urban District Council formed in accordance with the Local Government Act of that year.⁶ By the East Sussex Review Order (1934) a further portion of Denton and the western portion of Bishopstone parish (in the Rape of Pevensey), together with a portion of Piddinghoe, adjoining Newhaven cemetery, were added to the Urban District.⁷

Although there has long been a harbour at Newhaven, the present one is of recent construction. The East Pier light was set up in 1862.⁸ By the Customs Consolidation Act (1876) Newhaven was declared to be a port after November 1881. The building of the

¹ *Suss. County Mag.* xii. 279.

² See Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 195.

³ *V.C.H. Suss.* iii, 61.

⁴ *Suss.* 6-in. O.S. (1st ed.).

⁵ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ *Ex. inf.* F. Bentham Stevens.

⁸ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 163.

breakwater was begun in 1880. The breakwater lighthouse was built in 1892 and the West Pier lighthouse in 1895.⁹ The harbour and breakwater are the property of the Southern Railway Company.

The town attained its present importance during the 19th century, its increasing prosperity bringing with it a rapidly growing population. In 1801 there was a population of 584; in 1851 it had risen to 1,358, but the most rapid increase occurred between 1871 and 1881 when the number rose from 2,549 to 4,009.¹⁰ At the census of 1931 there were 6,404 residents.¹¹ Most of the industry of the town to-day is connected with the cross-Channel trade. Large quantities of fruit and vegetables, in particular, pass through Newhaven on their way to the London markets. There is also in the town a ship-yard where small boats are made, a chalk quarry, and a brick-yard.

In former times, Newhaven carried on a foreign trade of its own, supplying the merchants of Brighton, Lewes, and elsewhere, but already by the beginning of the 19th century this trade was declining; on the other hand, the import of coal, which was mainly distributed by barges up the Ouse and its branches, nearly doubled between 1814 and 1823.¹² In the 17th century, a certain amount of ordnance and shot manufactured in the Sussex foundries was exported from Newhaven, often, it would appear, in spite of the government regulations which restricted the manufacture of guns and shot, and required that they should first be brought to Tower Wharf, London, to be licensed.¹³ In the early 19th century poor people collected boulders which were exported to the pottery districts of Staffordshire.¹⁴ At that time, also, the town had two extensive breweries and was noted for the excellence of its beer.¹⁵ In the Middle Ages there were two mills in Meeching;¹⁶ and a map of 1823 shows a windmill on the western side of the road leading to Brighton,¹⁷ but none now exists.

Originally the place was called Meeching, and the River Ouse entered the sea at Seaford, for centuries a harbour of some importance. About the middle of the 16th century the old mouth of the Ouse became blocked and a fresh mouth was opened, possibly by the action of storms, near the Bishopstone Tidemills, forming the 'New Haven' first mentioned in 1566.¹⁸ In the Register of Coasting Traders compiled in 1572 by Thomas Colshill, surveyor of customs, Meeching and Newhaven are entered separately.¹⁹ Before 1620 another cut had been made, farther west near the present outlet,²⁰ and this, although frequently choked by shingle, eventually became the port round which the town of Newhaven grew up.

The town does not appear in national affairs until 1545, when the French, under Claude d'Annebault, descended on it after being repulsed in the Isle of Wight. And here, as Stowe records,²¹ 'landed manie captaines and souldiers who by the valientnes of the gentlemen and yeomen were slaine and drowned in the Hauen a

great number of them and of the rest hardly recovered their ships and gallies'.

In 1587, when the Spanish invasion was imminent, a survey of the coast was made and the Commissioners recommended the construction of entrenchments and batteries.²² The passage of the Spanish fleet past Newhaven in the following year caused a great deal of alarm in the neighbourhood. In 1589 one ship from Newhaven took part in the expedition of Norreys and Drake, which attempted, with the queen's unofficial blessing, to place Don Antonio on the Portuguese throne.²³ In the same year Newhaven was selected as the port of embarkation for part of the English army sent to assist Henry IV of France.²⁴

Until comparatively modern times the people inhabiting this region appear to have been extremely lawless, for the records frequently mention acts of pillage committed upon merchant ships cast away upon the coast, and to this were added, as time went on, complaints about the activities of smugglers and privateers.²⁵ The inhabitants, however, do not seem to have been active during the Civil War, except that a Covenant²⁶ bearing 51 signatures was drawn up in March 1644 and entered in a Register Book, by which the parties undertook to extirpate popery, to preserve the reformed religion of the Church of Scotland, the rights and privileges of the parliament and the liberties of the kingdoms, and to defend the king's person and authority 'that the world may bear witness . . . that wee have noe thoughts or intentions to diminish his Majestie's just power and greatnesse'.

In July 1664, when the need for providing a good harbour at this point on the coast had been felt, licence was granted to John Russell and others to scour and make navigable the river at Newhaven and Lewes, to erect a pier, lighthouses, fortifications, and slaughter-houses. At the same time wharfage and other dues were granted to them in return for a yearly payment of £5.²⁷ The work of building the harbour, however, did not progress smoothly and, in 1669, the king was petitioned by some of the inhabitants of Newhaven to order an inquiry to discover to what persons money was owing for materials and the lodging of workmen. The petition went on to complain that there were dissensions in Newhaven as to who should carry out the scheme.²⁸ Subsequently, in 1672 and 1673, prize-ships were granted to Russell towards defraying the cost of the harbour.²⁹ Concerning the harbour, Andrew Yarranton wrote, in 1677:

'I conceive one great reason why this so beneficial a work was not perfected was the want of an Act of Parliament to support the doing thereof, as also it is possible that the Engineer first employed was not so knowing as was requisite in so great an undertaking, for, as the thing now stands, there was one Peer made which is on the North, but had the West Peer been first Finished then the quantities of sand now lodged in the mouth of the harbour had been carried away to sea.'³⁰

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 224.

¹¹ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

¹² Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 338. 28,017 chaldrons of coal were imported in 1823 as against 15,290 in 1814.

¹³ *Acts of P.C.* 1577-8, p. 338; *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1611-18, pp. 287 and 388; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* 13, iv, 178.

¹⁴ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 338.

¹⁵ Ibid. 336.

¹⁶ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*,

iii, 309.

¹⁷ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 337.

¹⁸ *Suss. County Mag.* v, 295.

¹⁹ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 151.

²⁰ *Suss. County Mag.* v, 295.

²¹ Stowe, *Annales of England* (Newbury ed. 1601), 992.

²² *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 152.

²³ Ibid. 153.

²⁴ *Acts of P.C.* 1589-90, p. 98.

²⁵ e.g. *Cal. Pat.* 1334-8, p. 203; *Acts of P.C.* 1577-8, p. 330; *Cal. S.P. Dom.*

1611-18, p. 179; *ibid.* 1637, p. 344; *ibid.* 1637-8, p. 111; *ibid.* 1663-4, p. 531; *ibid.* 1672-3, p. 91; *ibid.* 1691-2, p. 238.

²⁶ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 338-40.

²⁷ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1663-4, p. 656; *Pat.*

16 Ch. II, pt. xii, no. 2.

²⁸ *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1668-9, p. 157.

²⁹ *Ibid.* 1672, p. 466; *ibid.* 1672-3, p. 182; *ibid.* 1673, p. 565.

³⁰ Yarranton, 'England's Improvement by Sea and Land', quoted in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 101.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

Following upon this unsuccessful experiment came further protests, in 1689, about the choking of the harbour.³¹ But it was not until 1731 that Parliament took the matter in hand. In that year an Act was passed, and with the improvement of the harbour the prosperity of the town increased.³² In 1784 an Act of Parliament³³ was obtained for the building of a bridge over the Ouse at Newhaven to take the place of the ancient ferry whose history can be traced back to the 13th century.³⁴

In 1764 the Government bought Castle Hill of Hester Gibbon and fortified it, but there had been guns there earlier.³⁵ The present fort was constructed 1864.

During the Revolutionary Wars great numbers of militia men, who had been levied for the defence of the country, were stationed in this neighbourhood. The provision of food became a serious problem and in April 1795 mutiny broke out among the Oxfordshire militia in consequence of the high price of provisions.³⁶ After seizing all the flour, bread, and meat they could find in Seaford and Bishopstone Tidemills, they took possession of Newhaven. Here they obtained 300 sacks of flour from a sloop which had, by their orders, been moored in the river. The Lancashire Fencibles from Brighton and the Horse Artillery from Lewes were sent to subdue the rioters, who, at first, seemed determined to make resistance, but after two field-pieces had been discharged at them, they were thrown into confusion and easily disarmed. Two soldiers were afterwards shot and one transported for life for this escapade.

In the following year, when each county was required by Parliament to provide a quota of men for the Navy, Newhaven supplied 17 of the Sussex total of 223, Rye supplying 90, and Shoreham 28.³⁷

In 1848 Louis Philippe, king of the French, and his queen landed at Newhaven in their flight from France where a revolution had overthrown the monarchy.

The manor of *MEECHING* is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey, but by about 1212 it was held in demesne by William de Warenne,³⁸ and descended with the rape. After the death of Beatrice, Countess of Arundel, in 1439, the manor, together with the vill of Piddinghoe, fell to the share of John, Duke of Norfolk.³⁹ It is uncertain, however, whether John, 4th Duke of Norfolk, who died in 1461, ever had possession of the manor as, in 1448, Katherine, his mother, was stated to hold the lands in dower for life of his inheritance with reversion to the duke.⁴⁰ In 1462, Elizabeth wife of John, 5th Duke of Norfolk, a minor, was granted the rents and profits of the manor as part of her jointure.⁴¹ The duke died in 1476, and the manor followed the descent of the rest of the Mowbray share of the barony, although in 1477 Katherine, widow of the 3rd duke, appears still to have held it in dower.⁴²

The moiety that finally came into the hands of the Arundels was sold in 1641-2 by Thomas, Earl of Arundel, his wife, and Henry, Lord Mowbray, to Lionel, Earl of Middlesex, Henry, Lord Pierpoint (afterwards Earl of Kingston-upon-Hull), Sir William Playters, and Sir Richard Onslow,⁴³ who mortgaged it to Richard Evelyn,⁴⁴ and afterwards to Robert Heath,⁴⁵ and finally sold it to William Lane of Southover⁴⁶ sometime before Trinity, 1657.⁴⁷

The other moiety was sold with the Derby portion of the barony to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, in 1576-7,⁴⁸ and descended with it in the Dorset family until 1624.⁴⁹ Edward, brother and heir of Richard, Earl of Dorset, conveyed a moiety of the manor in 1630-1 to Matthias Caldicott⁵⁰ and in 1648 Richard Caldicott and others conveyed it to John Rowe.⁵¹ The nature of these transactions is, however, not quite clear, since by 1663 a portion of the manor is said to have come into the hands of John Tufton, 2nd Earl of Thanet,⁵² who had married Margaret daughter of Richard, Earl of Dorset.⁵³ Courts were held in October 1664 and in December 1669 in the names of Margaret, dowager Countess of Thanet, and William Lane. From August 1682 until August 1729 the sole lords appear to have been the Lanes.⁵⁴ In 1730 William Lane and Elizabeth his wife quitclaimed the manor to Edward Gibbon.⁵⁵ He was succeeded as lord of the manor by Hester Gibbon, who held courts until 1775, and sold the manor to John Holroyd, Lord Sheffield, in 1777.⁵⁶ The manor descended in the Sheffield family through the 19th century.⁵⁷ In 1903 the late Mr. Thomas Colgate bought the manor from the then Earl of Sheffield, whose steward he had been. Mr. Colgate died at the end of 1936,⁵⁸ and the manorial rights are now in the possession of his legal representatives.⁵⁹



HOLROYD, Lord Sheffield. *Assure a fesse dancetty argent between three griffons passant or with three scallops gules on the fesse.*

In the manor of Meeching *cum* Piddinghoe the custom of Borough English prevailed.⁶⁰

The church of *ST. MICHAEL* stands *CHURCH* on the hill-side at the western edge of the town. It consists of an apsidal sanctuary with an axial tower over the adjoining chancel, all of the early or mid 12th century.⁶¹ West of this is a double-aisled nave, built in 1791 on the site of the medieval nave, which was completely removed. At the east end of the south aisle is a modern porch, and the corresponding position on the north is occupied by a modern vestry. The old work is faced with flint and rubble and the new nave with flint, both having dress-

³¹ Add. MS. 33058.

³² Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 336.

³³ *Statutes at Large*, xiv, 24 Geo. III, c. xxi, p. 443.

³⁴ *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 171-4.

³⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 161.

³⁶ Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 221.

³⁷ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 161.

³⁸ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 50; cf. 51, 52.

³⁹ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiv), 187.

⁴⁰ *Cal. Pat.* 1446-52, p. 145.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* 1461-7, p. 212.

⁴² *Rot. Parl.* (Rec. Com.), vi, 168b.

⁴³ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 390.

⁴⁴ *Suss. Arch. Trust Deeds at Lewes*, Pelham, A. 162.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* A. 166, A. 167, A. 168, A. 189.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* Deeds, C. 159.

⁴⁷ *Chan. Proc. Six Clerks Series*, bdl. 28, no. 3.

⁴⁸ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 63.

⁴⁹ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 337.

⁵⁰ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 297.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*

⁵² *Ct. R.* quoted by Burrell, Add. MS. 5684.

⁵³ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vii, 388.

⁵⁴ Add. MS. 5684. Cf. *Streat in Streat* Hundred.

⁵⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 298.

⁵⁶ Add. MS. 5684. Cf. *Recov. R. Trin.* 4 Geo. IV, ro. 386.

⁵⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 184-5; *Ord. map* in archives at Lewes showing Sheffield estates c. 1880.

⁵⁸ *Ex. inf.* Miss Colgate and Lawrence F. Field, Esq.

⁵⁹ *Ex. inf.* Westminster Bank, Ltd., Lewes.

⁶⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 184-5. For other customs of the manor, see *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 78-80, 90, 141-2.

⁶¹ See paper, and engravings of church, in *Archaeological Journal*, vi, 138.

ings of stone. The apsidal sanctuary has two narrow pilasters to the east and two very wide ones next the tower, all rising from a chamfered plinth. It was originally lit by three small single-light windows, but the two side ones have been replaced in the 14th century by larger lights. The sills of the original windows are joined by a double-chamfered string-course. The walls of the apse seem to have been slightly reduced in height, and the roof is modern. The tower has, in its south wall, the jambs of a narrow early-Norman doorway, in the filling of which a later single-light window has been inserted. The tower has a set-off immediately above the roof of the apse. Above this, the belfry is lit by two-light windows in the north, south, and east walls, the

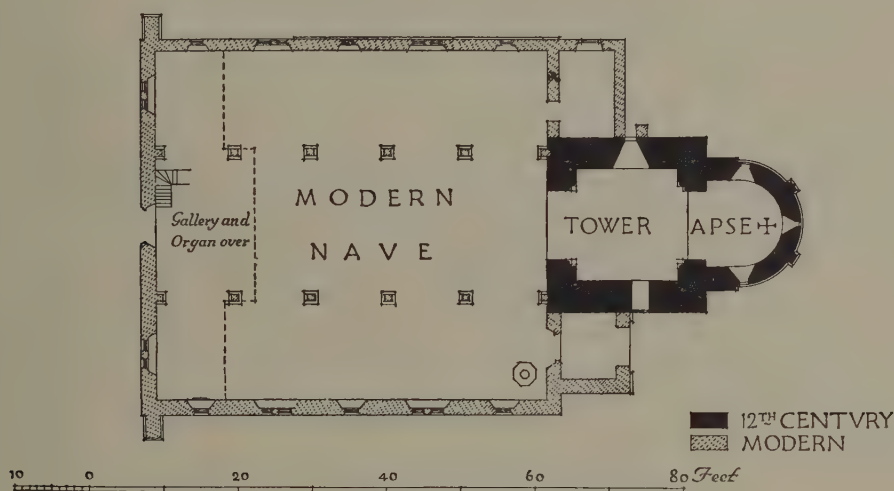
the angles have been renewed without the shafts, which are thus curtailed at different heights above the floor. The imposts have been much mutilated and altered. The only remarkable feature of the nave is its arcades, which have square timber posts with foliated spandrels of the same material. The nave and north aisle date from 1791, the south aisle being added in 1854, when the church underwent restoration.

The tower contains a bell by R. Phelps, dated 1737.⁶²

The plate is all modern, consisting of two silver chalices with patens, of 1876 and 1897 respectively, and a silver flagon of 1856.⁶³

The registers date from 1553.

~ The PARISH CHURCH of ST. MICHAEL ~ ~ NEWHAVEN ~



shaft of the latter having a mid-wall shaft with an annulet. The tower has a shingled broach-spire, rising from a very interesting corbel-table, most of the corbels of which are figure-heads. The nave and aisles are modern and of no interest. The interior of the apse shows the deep splay of the Norman east window, beneath which is a string-course similar to that on the exterior. The tower arches seem to have been restored at some time, especially at the imposts, which are formed with simple quirk and hollow-chamfer Norman moulding. The jambs facing the interior of the tower have shafts with belled capitals, up each of which is carved a row of studs between two vertical lines. On the south side of the tower-space is the narrow blocked Norman doorway, filled with a later window, and opposite this are the deep plays of a Norman window. The nave side of the west tower arch has been much mutilated and restored. The stones at

The church is a discharged rectory *ADVOWSON* which was valued at £5 6s. 8d. in 1291⁶⁴ and at £13 3s. 3½d. in the early 16th century.⁶⁵ The advowson and tithes were granted by William de Warenne II to the Priory of St. Pancras, Lewes.⁶⁶ The priory presented to the church until 1537, when the advowson was conveyed to the king.⁶⁷ In the following February it was granted to Thomas Cromwell.⁶⁸ Upon his downfall, the advowson reverted to the Crown, and was still so vested until it was bought in 1863 by the Rev. Ebenezer Pleasaunce Southwood,⁶⁹ who had formerly been curate and was in 1856 promoted to be rector of the parish by the Lord Chancellor. He supplied the church with plate. He died on 22 March 1900, but in 1899 another rector had been presented to the living. By 1901 the patronage had come into the hands of the Church Patronage Society, where it has since remained.⁷⁰

⁶² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 219.

⁶³ *Ibid.* liv, 232-3.

⁶⁴ *Tax. Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), 136.

⁶⁵ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), i, 333.

⁶⁶ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii),

11, 15, 21.

⁶⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 426-7.

⁶⁸ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii, 384 (74).

⁶⁹ *Misc. Rec.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iv), 13; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.); Horsfield, *Lewes*, i, 335; Add. MS. 39340, fol. 86.

⁷⁰ *Ex. inf.* L. F. Field, Esq.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

PIDDINGHOE

Peddinghowe, Pidingeho (xiii cent.); Pydynghowe (xiv cent.).

The parish of Piddinghoe lies south of Lewes between the River Ouse and the sea. It is bounded on its western side by the parishes of Telscombe and South-east, and on its eastern side by the parish of Newhaven.

Until 1929 the parish of Piddinghoe was comparatively large, having an area of 2,347 acres, including 7 acres of water. Since 1929, however, by the East Sussex (Piddinghoe and Peacehaven) Confirmation Order, a part of the parish on the coast has been formed into the parish of Peacehaven. By the East Sussex Review Order of 1934 a further portion of Piddinghoe was transferred to Newhaven parish and urban district.¹ The present area is 1,047 acres and the population in 1931 was 216, as compared with 231 for the old parish in 1831.

The soil of the parish is clay, and clay with a subsoil of chalk. Wheat, barley, and oats are grown. In 1874 there were 560 acres of common-field lands.²

The highest part of the parish is in the neighbourhood of Hodder Farm and Lodge Hill, north of Peacehaven, where the land rises to a height of over 200 ft. A footpath leads down from here to the scattered village of Piddinghoe which stands close to the right bank of the River Ouse, about a mile and a quarter above Newhaven. The old main road from that town to Lewes passed over the brow of Lodge Hill, west of the village, by a deep bostal. On the brow of the hill is 'The Lydds', a hummocky area believed to mark the site of an early medieval village, beneath which may be seen the broad lynchets of ancient fields. The later road passes between the hill and the river, and skirts the village green, around which cluster its few cottages and the church. A few cottages, an inn amongst them, straggle along the road towards Newhaven. The village is now by-passed by a new road. Towards the northern end of the village is a wharf, but the river-trade of Piddinghoe was probably more important in medieval times than it is to-day. There was a curious local saying, the origin of which is unknown, to the effect that 'Piddinghoe people shoe their magpies'.³

There is a large farm, Court Farm, in the village, and another with a 17th-century farm-house at Halcombe. There are several old cottages of early-17th-century date in the village.

Half a mile north-west is the manor-house of Deans, a large late-16th-century building, built of chalk faced with flint and with stone dressings. The building lies south-east to north-west, the former being the upper end. The original entrance was near the middle of the north-east front, at the lower end of the hall, which has a fine open fire-place with stone jambs and a depressed four-centred oak chimney-beam. The arch has long narrow spandrels, the sinister of which is carved with a sword, the dexter portraying a scabbard. The upper parlour has a fire-place with stone jambs and cambered oak chimney-beam, and shares the hall stack. Between this and the entrance front is an oak newel-stair in a square well. The newel is square, and is finished with a broomstick terminal. The whole stair is encased in a bay projecting from the entrance front. The barge-

board of its gable has a finial bearing the date 1622 and the initials H.W.E. At the lower end of the hall is the lower parlour, which has a fine timbered ceiling. Its fire-place, however, has been remodelled, as has that of the kitchen adjoining it. This is a large room, the axis of which is at right angles to that of the main house. The south-west wall of the kitchen, which is carried up as a gable, is continued along the back of the house to form the usual outshut aisle. This is divided from the hall and the two parlours by a timber framing carrying the main roof. On the ground floor, the filling of this has been removed to throw the aisle into the main rooms; the timber posts and braces have been left, however, and can be seen passing through the rooms. The chamber over the upper parlour has a fire-place with stone jambs and a stone segmental-pointed arch with wide hollow chamfer, over which is a four-centred relieving arch turned in thin bricks or tiles. Such other fire-places as remain on the upper floor have stone jambs and timber chimney-beams. The timber-work of the house is good throughout, the stops to the chamfers on the main beams being varied and interesting. Unfortunately no old windows or external doors remain. At the foot of the old stair is a small cellar, the walls of which are of chalk rubble. An attic floor has been inserted above the original first floor, a wing has been added at the eastern corner of the house to connect it with the stables, and another wing at the opposite end of the house provides for modern offices and servants' quarters. A large 17th-century barn, known as 'Chapel Barn', remains in the farm-yard to the east of the house, and near it is the outlet of the old main drain, discharging into the lower end of a coombe which was presumably once a river-creek. The old main road once passed by the house, but the present road runs between it and the river. On the hill-side behind the house is a Bronze Age long barrow known as 'Moneyburgh'.

Peacehaven, which was formed into a separate parish in 1929, is a holiday resort or bungalow-town which takes its name from having been founded at the end of the War of 1914-18. It lies at the edge of the cliffs, 2 miles south-west of Piddinghoe, its plan being a grid of unmade roads about a mile long and half a mile deep, based on the main road from Newhaven to Brighton. There is a temporary parish church, and also a Roman Catholic church. The population in 1931 was 2,007, and the parish covers 1,296 acres.

Formerly, Piddinghoe appears to have been of some industrial importance. There is still a whiting-works in the village, and a Lewes firm has a wharf there, but the kilns in the village are derelict, and pottery and bricks are no longer made there.

PIDDINGHOE is not found in Domesday MANORS, but by 1220 a manor of that name was in the hands of William Earl Warenne.⁴ The vill of Piddinghoe descended with the manor of Meeching (q.v.),⁵ but at the same time there was a manor of Piddinghoe which came into the possession of William Bardolf lord of Plumpton (q.v.),⁶ and was held by him at his death in 1275.⁷ His overlord was John de Warenne, Earl of Surrey.⁸ Nothing

¹ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

² *Parl. Papers*, vol. lii.

³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 210.

⁴ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 50; cf. also *Feud. Aids*, v, 129.

⁵ See also *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec.

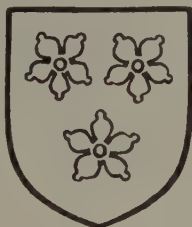
Soc. xxxiv), 2, 187.

⁶ In *Streat Hundred*.

⁷ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ii, 190.

⁸ *Ibid.*

more is heard of this manor⁹ until 1486, when William 'Viscount Beaumont, Lord of Bardolf', was seised of it at the time of his marriage with Elizabeth Scrope.¹⁰ He died in 1507.¹¹ This manor appears to have followed the fortunes of Plumpton, since Nicholas Carew was holding it at the time of his attainder in 1536.¹² The king restored it to Elizabeth Carew, his widow, in 1539,¹³ from which time it was described as the manor of **PLUMPTON-PIDDINGHOE**. Francis Carew, son of Elizabeth, had succeeded her by 1554,¹⁴ and in 1593 conveyed the manor to Richard Leache and his wife Charity.¹⁵ In 1656 the manor was in the hands of Anthony Springett, who then sold it to William Lane.¹⁶ He died in 1702 and his son William sold it in 1730 to Edward Gibbon.¹⁷ His daughter Hester died unmarried in 1790, leaving the manor to her nephew Edward Gibbon, the historian,¹⁸ who apparently sold it to his friend the Earl of Sheffield, as in 1823 and 1835 it belonged to the Earl.¹⁹ Part of it, 'that part of the manor which is in the marsh', lay in the parish of Piddinghoe.²⁰



BARDOLF. *Azure three cinquefoils or.*

The manor of **HARPETING** or **HARPINGDEN** [Herbertinges (xi cent.); Harpedynges (xii-xiii cent.); Harpings (xix cent.)] was held at the time of Edward the Confessor by Alnod.²¹ In 1086 it was held of William de Warenne by Godfrey de Pierpoint, and with it went four messuages in Lewes.²² The overlordship descended with the rape at least until 1428.²³

William de Pierpoint²⁴ was lord of Herbertinges in about 1090,²⁵ but after this time the Pierpoint connexion can no longer be traced. William de Herbertinges, a tenant of William de Pierpoint, granted to the Prior of St. Pancras, Lewes, 18 acres of land and grazing for 100 sheep at Harpeting, about 1090.²⁶ Simon de Herbeting, presumably a descendant, held 2 knights' fees in Piddinghoe, and his widow Muriel held one-third of his land in dower.²⁷ His grandson, also Simon, was holding the 2 knights' fees in 1224, but in that year he conveyed to William Haubois Muriel's third, which included a capital messuage and the southern half of the garden. William Haubois was to perform to the chief lord all the service pertaining to the 2 fees. Simon retained two-thirds of the fief, with the northern half of the garden pertaining to the capital messuage, together with a messuage likewise pertaining to Muriel's portion. For this two-thirds he was to perform the proportion of service due and to pay annually one sore

sparrow-hawk or two shillings.²⁸ In 1230 Simon conveyed to Aubrey de Marinis and his wife Eleanor two parts of 42 acres of land and 8 acres of heath,²⁹ of which they received the other third from William son of Gervase.³⁰

In 1344-5 Peter de Harpetynge conveyed to Thomas de Wylecombe land and rent in Piddinghoe, with a messuage and a mill,³¹ and including the reversion of the third held in dower by Joan widow of Simon de Harpetynge, and of 1 virgate held for life by Ismania de Harpetynge.³² It was apparently this land that by 1428 had descended to John Leedes, who was holding it as half a knight's fee.³³ For some time it followed the descent of the Leedes manor of East Chiltington (q.v.).³⁴ In 1541 John Leedes paid £10 relief for the 2 knights' fees he inherited from his father William Leedes.³⁵ John Leedes was a recusant and had to flee the country.³⁶ In 1583-4 Henry Collins and his wife Alice conveyed the manor of Harpetyng to John Pryor,³⁷ but John Leedes died seised of it, and also of Horcombe (q.v.), in 1606, his heir being his son Sir Thomas Leedes.³⁸ These manors were held in 1631 by William Heath of the manor of Portslade as 2 knights' fees.³⁹ In addition, William Heath held as ¼ knight's fee, one messuage, one barn, and half of the lands called Harpings *alias* Harpetyng' in Piddinghoe, formerly Pilbeames.⁴⁰

Nothing further is known of the history of the manor. The Heath family is said to have owned and occupied in the early 17th century the mansion house of Deans, of which the Earl of Chichester was owner in 1835.⁴¹

The manor of **HORCOMBE** (Horecumba) is first mentioned in a charter of William de Warenne to Lewes Priory, between 1091 and 1098, confirming Norman the Hunter's gift of the tithe of Horcombe, and Joslen the Constable's gift of the tithe of 2 hides there.⁴² By about 1530 the manor was already held by the Leedes family,⁴³ and it descended with Harpetyng (q.v.). In 1612 it was conveyed by Sir Thomas Leedes and his wife Mary, and Sir John Leedes to Richard and William Heath.⁴⁴ In 1631 it was in the hands of William Heath,⁴⁵ and it remained in the possession of the Heath family at least until July 1640, at which date William Heath devised to Henry Shelley and his other executors the profits of all his manors until his son Robert attained his majority, with the proviso that if his son died before the age of 21 without heirs, the



LEEDES. *Argent a fesse gules between three eagles sable.*

⁹ In 1331, however, Agnes, widow of Thomas Bardolf, claimed ½ of the manor of Plumpton with appurtenances in Piddinghoe and elsewhere: *Cal. Inq. p.m.* vii, 182.

¹⁰ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 96.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *Ibid.* 212.

¹³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiv (2), g. 113 (5); *Cal. Pat.* 1554-5, p. 28.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 353. For a list of tenants in 1597 see *Bk. of J. Rowe* (ibid. xxxiv), 235, 239-40.

¹⁶ Add. MS. 39500, fol. 190.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* fol. 189; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 297-8.

¹⁸ Add. MS. 39500, fol. 190.

¹⁹ *Recov. R. Trin.* 4 Geo. IV, ro. 386;

Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 196.

²⁰ *Ibid.*

²¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 437.

²² *Ibid.*

²³ *Feud. Aids*, v, 161.

²⁴ Cf. Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 299.

²⁵ *Lewes Chart.* i, 33.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ *Fines* (ibid. ii), 184.

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ *Ibid.* 252.

³⁰ *Ibid.* 255.

³¹ *Ibid.* xxiii, 1977.

³² *Ibid.* A series of Simons were attesting charters down to 1308: *Lewes Chart. passim*.

³³ *Feud. Aids*, v, 161. For the Wyle-

combe-Leedes connexion see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 40 *et seq.*

³⁴ In *Streat Hund.* Cf. *Early Chan. Proc.* file 839, nos. 22-5.

³⁵ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 205.

³⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 44-6; *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1547-80, p. 448.

³⁷ It was warranted against Henry and Alice and the heirs of Alice, and against William and Joan Lullingden and Joan's heirs: *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 202.

³⁸ *Inq.* (ibid. xiv), 643.

³⁹ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 205.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴¹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 196.

⁴² *Lewes Chart.* i, 12.

⁴³ *Early Chan. Proc.* file 839, nos. 22-5.

⁴⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 223.

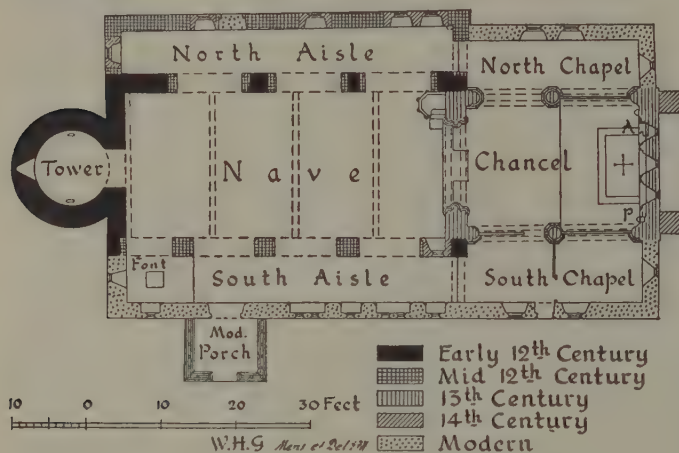
⁴⁵ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 205.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

manor of Horcombe should descend to his daughter Martha, wife of Henry Shelley, for life, with remainder to William Shelley, their son.⁴⁶ The subsequent history of the manor is unknown, but the name survives in Halcombe Farm.⁴⁷

In 1086 *ORLESWICK* [Laneswic (xi cent.); Horlaueswica, Horlaueswik, Horlaweswica (x—xii cent.); Hordlaueswick, Ordlaueswica (xii cent.); Ordlaueswyk (xiii cent.); Orleswick (xviii cent.)] was held by Niel of Earl Warenne as 5 hides. Earl Godwin had held it as 6½ hides in the time of King Edward, and seven alodial tenants held it of him. There were two haws in Lewes pertaining to it.⁴⁸ This land appears to have been near Herbertinges.⁴⁹

PARISH CHURCH of ST. JOHN PIDDINGHOE



Niel gave his tithes there to the priory of St. Pancras at Lewes and Godard gave them tithe of 1½ hides there.⁵⁰ Ralph son of Niel gave 6 acres of land there to the monks;⁵¹ and in about 1170 Simon de Herbertinges gave them 18 acres of land, and Walter son of Gerard de Horecumba confirmed the grant of 7 acres in Orleswick made to the monks by his father.⁵²

In the early 13th century Ralph de Meyners was holding land in Orleswick which by 1247, after his death, had come into the hands of his sister Agnes widow of William de Benefeld. Agnes made this over to her sister and coheir, Isabel wife of Philip de Neubaud, in return for other land of the inheritance of Ralph.⁵³ The only other reference to Orleswick that has been found occurs in a rent-roll of the Duke of Dorset, where, under the heading of the manor of Swanborough, Orleswick is found to be held in 1719–20 by Ann Winton, widow.⁵⁴ The name is now lost.⁵⁵

The church of *ST. JOHN* stands on a *CHURCH* low bluff rising from the river's edge. It is faced with flint and has stone dressings. It consists of a nave and chancel, both with aisles on either side, a circular western tower, and a south porch. The nave and tower are probably of early-12th-century date,

with the north aisle of the nave slightly later than the nave itself, and its original south aisle, rebuilt in 1882, probably dating from the end of the 12th century. The original chancel was probably of the 12th century, and had a north aisle. Early in the 13th century the chancel was rebuilt with north and south aisles, which were later removed, with the south aisle of the nave,⁵⁶ and not rebuilt until 1882. The south porch belongs to the same rebuilding.

The east wall of the chancel is lit by a triplet of plain lancet lights, above them in the gable being a large round window. Two buttresses of uncertain date take the thrust of the chancel arcades. The whole of the south aisle wall of the chancel and nave is modern, as is also the south porch. The north aisle wall of the chancel is also modern. The wall of the north aisle of the nave, however, is probably of the mid-12th century, although all the windows are later. The two easternmost of these are plain rectangular openings of about 1400. On either side of the blocked north door, which has a flat lintel and is perfectly plain, is a single-light window with a foliated head, possibly also of the 14th century. The west window of this aisle is a plain rectangular light similar to those near the east end of the aisle. The round tower is contemporary with the nave, possibly early-12th century, and has a ring of six plain semicircular-headed windows lighting the belfry. Two similar windows light the west wall of the ringing floor and the ground floor respectively. The tower is perfectly plain, without set-offs, and has a steep conical shingled roof or low spire, at the summit of which is a very large vane in the form of a salmon-trout.

The east end of the chancel shows internally the splays of the three lancets noted above. Their sills are stepped, and the arrises of the splays are ornamented with a roll-moulding. A string-course runs beneath them, and above them is the round window in the gable. In the east wall, just north of the altar, is a plain rectangular aumbry, rebated for a door, and on the south of the altar, is a simple piscina with an obtusely pointed arch and a projecting half-octagonal bowl. Above both aumbry and piscina is a pair of image brackets, one over the other. The chancel arcades both consist of two obtusely pointed arches of two orders, each chamfered, springing from a circular column in the middle and segmental responds at either end. The caps have a roll-moulding beneath the abacus, a plain bell, and an astragal. The bases have roll-mouldings, and rest on a low octagonal plinth. The chancel arch is a fine lofty feature. Its responds have each a face-shaft and two nook-shafts, and rise from moulded bases similar to those of the chancel arcades. The capitals have stiff-leaf carving on the bells, and the arch above is deeply moulded in two orders. The arch crossing the north

⁴⁶ *Suss. Arch. Trust Deeds at Lewes*, Pelham Coll. A, 157.

⁴⁷ *Pl.-Names, Suss.* ii, 324.

⁴⁸ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 437.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.* n. 5.

⁵⁰ *Lewes Chart.* i, 12.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*

⁵² *Ibid.* ii, 37–8.

⁵³ *Fines (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii)*, 437.

⁵⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxix, 136.

⁵⁵ *Place-Names of Suss.* ii, 325.

⁵⁶ There was apparently a south aisle in 1728, when orders were given for the re-laying of the floor of the church, 'except in the south aisle': *Add. MS.* 39445, fol. 6.



NEWHAVEN CHURCH, FROM THE NORTH-EAST, 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



PIDDINGHOE CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, 1802
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)



RODMELL: REMAINS OF NORTHEASE CHAPEL, *c.* 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)

aisle has been rebuilt in a circular form, but that it is an ancient feature is shown by the imposts, which are of the 12th century. The nave arcades have both been cut through the walls of the original nave at some time in the middle of the 12th century. The north arcade is in three bays with semicircular arches, and is earlier than the southern one of four bays with pointed arches. The imposts are formed with simple bands of chamfered string-course. In the eastern respond of the south arcade has been cut a rectangular window, similar to those which have been noted in the north aisle, and dating from after the removal of the south aisle itself. The tower arch is very simple, being a plain semicircular-headed arch with no imposts, and plainly showing that the tower and nave are contemporaneous. The roofs of both nave and chancel are modern,⁵⁷ but the braced principals to the former may be old. The font is a plain square block mounted on a square pedestal having on each face a pair of vertical square recesses, each containing another vertical trefoil-headed recess, the whole standing on a square base and apparently dating from the late-13th century. In the north-east corner of the north aisle of the nave is a square projecting bracket having 15th-century crenellation round it and a hole in the middle which makes it appear to be a sconce. In the north wall of the nave is a figure-head corbel. The church possesses a fine example of an early-19th-century barrel-organ.

There are three bells, one bearing the date 1713, the other two uninscribed.⁵⁸

The plate includes a communion cup with the mark for 1568, but the foot is that of a pre-Reformation chalice, and the paten is also of pre-Reformation origin.⁵⁹

The register of baptisms dates from 1540, that of marriages from 1701, and that of burials from 1697.

In the churchyard, at the west end of the church, are the two stone uprights which once supported the village stocks.

The church of Piddinghoe is a *ADVOWSON* vicarage united since 1877 to the rectory of Telscombe. In 1252, in the endowment of Bishop Richard de la Wich, the vicarage was to be of the value of 15 marks.⁶⁰ In 1291 the rectory was valued at £29 6s. 8d., and the vicarage at £8.⁶¹ In the reign of Henry VIII the living was valued at £7 14s. 2d.⁶²

The church of Piddinghoe was given to the Priory of St. Pancras, Lewes, by William de Warenne about 1090.⁶³ The gift was confirmed in 1121 by Bishop Ralph of Chichester, and afterwards by Bishop Seffrid.⁶⁴ At the dissolution of the priory in 1536, the advowson was taken into the king's hands,⁶⁵ and in 1538 was granted to Thomas Cromwell.⁶⁶ After Cromwell's attainder, the advowson was granted to Anne of Cleves, in January 1541.⁶⁷

In August 1603 Thomas, Lord Buckhurst, was patron,⁶⁸ and the advowson appears to have remained with his descendants, the Earls of Dorset, until at least 1710,⁶⁹ though in 1631 the Rev. Edward Wood of Hamsey and John Wood presented.⁷⁰ In 1694 the Crown presented, by lapse.⁷¹ From at least 1715 the advowson descended with that of Telscombe (q.v.), to which the living was united by Order in Council of 30 April 1877.⁷²

The advowson of the new vicarage of Peacehaven is alternately in the gift of the Crown and the Bishop of Chichester.⁷³

RODMELL

Ramelle, Redmelle (xi cent.); Redmelde (xii cent.); Radmelde (xiii cent.); Radmill (xviii cent.).

Rodmell lies on the right bank of the River Ouse, the single street of the village leaving the main Newhaven-Lewes road just 3½ miles from each of those towns. There is an inn on the main road, and the village stretches thence for half a mile in a north-easterly direction towards the river, which is said to have once been fordable at this point.¹ On the other side of the main road, the street is continued as a deeply cut track climbing the high Downs behind the village.

The parish contains 1,933 acres of land. The river here is tidal, and 8 acres of its water and 6 of foreshore are included within the area of the parish. The population rose steadily from 256 in 1801 to 360 in 1841, but then declined and in 1931 was 244. The highest point in the parish is Highdole Hill, 408 ft. At its summit are traces of an Early Iron Age and Romano-British settlement, which was explored in 1935.² Another, more ancient, site may be seen on Heathy Brow, along which runs the boundary between Rodmell and Iford. Tumuli and field-banks abound on the

site, which excavation has dated as being of the Bronze Age. In Summersdene is a large tumulus called 'The Burgh'.³ On Mill Hill is the site of the medieval mill of Rodmell; its successor stood in the village below.⁴

Many sheep find pasturage on the chalk Downs above Rodmell, and the loamy clay and marl in the coombes and along the river banks provides good arable land. The village street contains a number of old cottages, at least one of which has some windows with square oak bars, fixed close together, in place of mullions, this being the type of window in use before glass was available for cottage use. Rodmell Place, long the home of the family of de la Chambre, stood immediately to the south of the church, but only some cellars, now almost filled in, remain to mark the site. Above these cellars, which show stone walls, apparently of late medieval date, is an enormous mulberry tree, having several stems, each separated from the others by many feet.

Half a mile west of the church is the manor-house of Northease, once a chapelry, the northern outshoot from Rodmell corresponding to that at Southease on the opposite side of the village. The present manor-house

⁵⁷ Orders were given in 1728 for the whole roof to be pulled down and re-fashioned: *Ibid.*

⁵⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 220.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.* liv, 236.

⁶⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxviii, 160.

⁶¹ *Tax. Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), 136.

⁶² *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), 1, 333.

⁶³ *Lewes Chart.* i, 21, 40.

⁶⁴ *Hayley Coll.*, Add. MS. 6351, fols.

23, 25.

⁶⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 426-7.

⁶⁶ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384

(74).

⁶⁷ *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

⁶⁸ *Misc. Rec.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iv), 13.

⁶⁹ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.); *Fines* (Suss. Rec.

Soc. xix), 273; *Recov. R. Trin.* 1656,

ro. 107.

⁷⁰ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁷¹ *Ibid.*

⁷² *Ex inf.* T. Macdonald Eggag, esq., Registrar of the diocese of Chichester.

⁷³ *Chich. Dioc. Dir.*

¹ See Allcroft, *Downland Pathways*, 17, who mentions that the village street was once called 'Erming Street'.

² *Antiquity*, vol. ix.

³ *Suss. N. & Q.* iv, 71; notes on its excavation.

⁴ *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. 2), bde. 401, no. 4.

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has been very much altered and shows no traces of antiquity. It was divided up into cottages before it was again restored to its present use as a large house. Adjoining are two large aisled timber barns of perhaps 17th-century date. In the present dairy, at the north-east end of the barn nearest the main road, is the north-west angle and part of the west wall of an early medieval building, which may have been the chapel of North-ease, which is said to have consisted of nave and chancel, with a total length of 55 ft.⁵ In 1780 it was said of it: 'the chapel of Northease is now converted, one part into a cow-stall and the chancel into a pigeon house. It stands east and west, and there are some faint remains of paintings on some of the walls towards the west end. At the south side there are some arches of free-stone in



RODMELL.

the wall. Some old men remember pieces of carved wainscot in this chapel.⁶

Among the more notable inhabitants of this parish was the Rev. Henry Goodman, a Nonconformist preacher, who was expelled from the church at the Restoration. Subsequently on 29 May 1670 he went down to Lewes to preach at the request of his friends. 'Great caution was used to prevent danger; but some informers slyly mixed with the audience. He preached on Eph. v. 16, "Redeeming the time", whereas they fixed on the words following "because the days are evil". Mr. Goodman, living at a distance, escaped the fine; but unconscionable fines were levied on many of his hearers, and they were levied still more unconscionably.⁷

The manor of **RODMELL** was held by **MANORS** Earl Harold before the Conquest for 79 hides. Of this, William de Warenne received 64 hides, the rest lying in the rapes of the Count of Mortain and William de Braose. In 1086 the manor was held in demesne by Earl Warenne and was assessed for 33 hides. Norman held 2 hides of the earl. There were also pertaining to the manor 44 haws in Lewes.⁸

The manor descended with the rape until 1439, when it fell to the share of Elizabeth, wife of Sir Edward Nevill, Lord Bergavenny.⁹ It subsequently descended with Northease (q.v.). At the beginning of the 17th century Edward, Lord Bergavenny, demised all the demesne lands of the manor or farm of Rodmell to Sir George Goring and his assigns for three lives.¹⁰ The estate was sold by Lord Abergavenny in 1919 and all manorial rights have now lapsed.¹¹

The custom of borough English prevailed in the manor.¹²

One-sixth of a knight's fee here was held of the barony of Lewes in 1439 by the heirs of Ralph de Stopeham.¹³ The overlordship fell to the Lady Bergavenny, the holder of the main manor of Rodmell, in 1439,¹⁴ and continued in that family until at least the beginning of the 17th century.¹⁵ This fee had descended by 1518 to John Leedes, then a ward of the Lord Abergavenny;¹⁶ Edward Leedes also held this land.¹⁷ In about 1618 this $\frac{1}{6}$ fee was in the possession of John Chambers¹⁸ or de la Chambre, who had built¹⁹ or bought Hall Place in Rodmell about 1586.²⁰ At this time the $\frac{1}{6}$ fee consisted of a tenement, a barn, and 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ virgates lying in the common fields of Rodmell.²¹ John's heir was apparently his brother, Richard de la Chambre,²² whose son Laurence held the estate,²³ but is said to have sold Rodmell Place to John de la Chambre in 1644.²⁴ The family continued to be connected with Rodmell until at least the end of the 17th century.²⁵ Rodmell Place is said to

have been held subsequently by a family named Montague and later sold, together with the estate, by the Rev. Moses Toghill to Charles Saxby, who just before 1835 sold it to the Earl of Abergavenny.²⁶ Presumably it was then merged in the manor.

It is possible that this $\frac{1}{6}$ fee represents the manor held by members of a family who derived their name from Rodmell. As early as 1203 Ralph de Radmelde held half a hide here,²⁷ and in 1340 William de Rademeld sued John de Parys and Margaret his wife (who was widow of William's father, John)²⁸ for waste, including destruction of a hall, a chamber, a latrine, a barn, and other buildings at Rodmell, committed during their tenancy of $\frac{1}{6}$ of the manors of Rodmell and Allington, which Margaret held in dower.²⁹ Lands in Rodmell were held for life by Richard Weyvile and Agatha his wife, daughter of John de Radmelde,³⁰ in 1400;³¹ in 1412 Richard was



DE LA CHAMBRE. *Argent a chevron sable voided ermine between three chamber-pieces sable fired proper.*

⁵ Lower, *Hist. of Sussex*, ii, 123.

⁶ Horsfield, *Lewes*, ii, 203. A view of the chapel at this time (Add. MS. 5677, fol. 29) is here reproduced.

⁷ Palmer, *Nonconformist Memorial*, quoted by Horsfield, *Lewes*, ii, 207.

⁸ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 436; cf. also i 414, 444.

⁹ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 189.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 56-7.

¹¹ *Ex inf.* Mrs. J. Webber Ebbs.

¹² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 186-7; cf. *Bk. of*

J. Rowe, *passim*, for customs of the manor.

¹³ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 18 Hen. VI, no. 28. Probably the Ralph who died in 1291, when his daughter and heir had married William de Echingham: *Cal. Fine R.* i, 297.

¹⁴ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 190, 193.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 195.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* 195.

¹⁹ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 91.

²⁰ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 197.

²¹ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 57.

²² *Comber*, op. cit. 93.

²³ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 195.

²⁴ *Comber*, loc. cit.

²⁵ *Ibid.* 93-5.

²⁶ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 197.

²⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 61.

²⁸ Add. MS. 39374, fol. 15v.

²⁹ De Banco R. 328, m. 135.

³⁰ See brass, below, p. 73.

³¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 2709.

returned as holding a manor of Rodmell;³² he died in 1417,³³ and Agatha subsequently married John Broke and died in 1433.³⁴ The estate presumably reverted to the trustees by whom it had been settled on Richard and Agatha and may have been sold to a member of the family of Leedes, but direct evidence is lacking.

The manor of *NORTHEASE* (Northese, Northise, North Hes), later *NORTHEASE CUM IFORD*, extends also into the parish of Iford (q.v.). The tithe of Northease was confirmed to Lewes Priory by William II de Warenne between 1091 and 1098.³⁵ In the early 13th century, Isabel, wife of Gilbert de Laigle (de Aquila), received one-third of the manor from her brother, William, 5th Earl Warenne, in exchange for lands in Yorkshire.³⁶ She gave this third in frankalmoin to Michelham Priory, and, after her death, the priors held it of successive Earls Warenne until 1367 when their representative, Richard, Earl of Arundel, obtained it from the then prior.³⁷

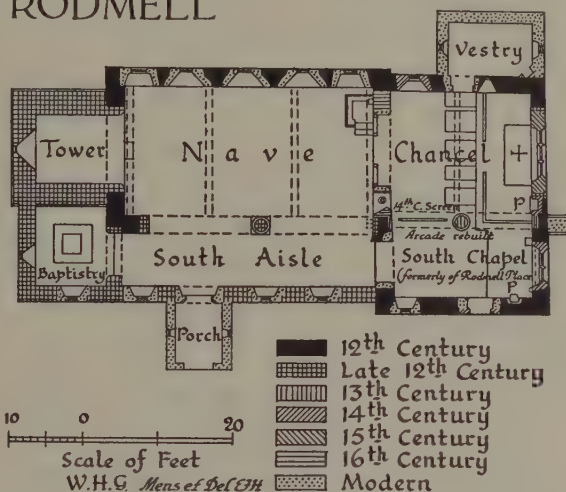
At the partition of the Warenne estates in 1439 the manor of Northease and the vill of Iford fell to Elizabeth wife of Edward Nevill.³⁸ Edmund Lenthall was to receive from it an annual rent of £12 12d., $\frac{2}{3}$ of a penny and $\frac{2}{3}$ of a halfpenny,³⁹ and the Duke of Norfolk, 36s. 2d.⁴⁰ Nothing more is known about the Lenthall rent. It seems likely that the other rent belonged to the Mowbrays until the death of John, 5th Duke of Norfolk, in 1476.⁴¹ It was probably the same rent which, by the name of the manor of Northease, Elizabeth his wife quitclaimed to Elizabeth, wife of Edward IV, in the same year,⁴² and which, subsequently, was settled upon Anne, the daughter of John, 5th Duke of Norfolk, and upon Richard, Duke of York, at the time of their marriage.⁴³ In the 17th century, the Earls of Surrey and Derby shared a rent of 36s. 2d. issuing from the manor.⁴⁴

The manor of Northease cum Iford descended with the Bergavenny portion of the rape. At about the beginning of the 17th century the site of the manor and the demesne lands were leased for three lives, at a rental of £10 per annum, to Sir George Goring, later Earl of Norwich.⁴⁵ He afterwards borrowed money from Sir Samuel Jones upon security of his office of Secretary to the Council of the Marches of Wales, and when the Civil War deprived him of this office, the manor of Northease cum Iford with other estates was taken as security.⁴⁶ The manor appears to have been in danger of sequestration, owing to Goring's staunch support of the king, and it was perhaps for this reason that Sir Samuel Jones and George Pierrepont conveyed the manor, together with Rodmell, in 1653, to Hatton Berners and John Scrimshire for the lives of Charles Goring and Diana wife of George Porter,⁴⁷ the children of the Earl of Norwich. In 1664 Jane Dove and

Sir James Phymmer complained that Sir Samuel Jones, like themselves a creditor of the Earl of Norwich, continued to exact a return from the manor of Northease for his debt, although fully satisfied.⁴⁸ In October 1717, however, George, Lord Abergavenny, was seised of the manor,⁴⁹ which continued to descend in the family⁵⁰ until 1919 when the estate was broken up and all manorial rights have since lapsed. Northease farm is the property of Mr. J. C. Robinson.⁵¹ Northease House is owned by Captain F. W. Hartman.

The custom of Borough English obtained in this manor.⁵² In the 17th century the tenants of Northease had a sheepdown of about 231 acres upon which they were allowed to keep 26 sheep for every yardland, 'with

PARISH CHURCH of ST. PETER RODMELL



the help of the grottons'.⁵³ The tenants had also 22½ acres of meadow near Strawberry wall, 122 acres of brookland, and a half of the common brook called Pull-bar, containing in all about 160 acres. In the common land of this manor the cottagers had no share.⁵⁴

In the manor of Rodmell the tenants had a sheepdown of about 233 acres and 149 acres of marshland in the Brooks, as well as 15 acres called the 'Hubberds' for which last they paid 15s. yearly to the lord.⁵⁵

The church of *ST. PETER* stands a *CHURCH* little to the east of the end of the village street of Rodmell. It consists of a nave and chancel, each with a south aisle, and a western tower having attached to it a baptistry formed by extending the south aisle of the nave. The nave has a south porch, and the chancel a modern vestry at its north-east corner. The wall-facing shows flint with stone dressings. The general plan of the nave and chancel appears to belong to the middle of the 12th century, and the south aisle of the chancel, with the remains of its west door, may also

³² *Feud. Aids*, vi, 525.

³³ Will, P.C.C. 40 Marche.

³⁴ See brass.

³⁵ *Lewes Chart.* i, 11.

³⁶ Add. MS. 39374, fol. 199.

³⁷ Ibid.; De Banco R. 286, m. 268;

ibid. 429, m. 352d; *Cal. Close*, 1333-7;

p. 369.

³⁸ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 189.

³⁹ Ibid. 185.

⁴⁰ Ibid. 188.

⁴¹ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 386.

⁴² *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 3212.

⁴³ *Rot. Parl.* (Rec. Com.), vi, 168.

⁴⁴ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 69.

⁴⁵ Ibid. 66.

⁴⁶ *Chan. Proc. Six Clerks Series*, bdle.

50, no. 8.

⁴⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 367.

⁴⁸ *Chan. Proc. Six Clerks Series*, bdle.

46, no. 14.

⁴⁹ Court Books at Lewes (Abergavenny

Coll.), no. 9, 1717-27.

⁵⁰ See *ibid.* nos. 9, 10, 11 (1717-47), no. 24 (1729-1838); *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 184.

⁵¹ *Ex inf.* Mrs. J. Webber Ebbs. Cf. also *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 184.

⁵² Ibid.; cf. also *Bk. of J. Rowe*, *passim*.

⁵³ Ibid. 69.

⁵⁴ Ibid. 69-70.

⁵⁵ Ibid. 61, where details of their rights of pasturing their stock are given.

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be contemporary with the original church. The south aisle of the nave and the west tower were added at the very end of the century, the pressure of the new south arcade necessitating the rebuilding of the chancel arcade soon after. The whole of the north wall of the nave was re-fenestrated, if not entirely rebuilt, during the 19th century, and the south aisle wall, with its porch, is also almost entirely a rebuilding.

The east wall of the chancel is lit by a large three-light window of the end of the 15th century. Jambes remaining on either side of this show that the original arrangement was probably three lofty single-light windows similar to those at the neighbouring churches of Iford and Piddinghoe, which are of late-12th-century date. A modern buttress supports the south arcade of the chancel. The east window of the south chapel is a restored two-light window of 14th-century date. The south wall of the chapel seems to have been much restored, and contains a small 14th-century door of simple character. West of this is a modern pseudo-14th-century single-light window, which may replace an original. The south wall of the nave aisle has been considerably restored, and now shows three modern single-light windows similar to that in the south chapel. The south porch is a modern rebuilding of the original structure. The north wall of the nave shows three large single-light windows with a large round quatrefoiled light at each end of the wall. These are all 19th-century pseudo-Gothic. The tower is plain and unbuttressed; its ground-floor is lit by a single light in the west wall, and the belfry has similar windows in its north, west, and south walls. A steep conical roof or spire, covered with shingles, caps the tower.

Within the chancel, at the east end of its north wall, may be seen one of the original windows, a single, deeply splayed light of early- or mid-12th-century date. Just west of this is a modern round-headed doorway leading into the modern vestry, within which may be seen the exterior of the little window. The south arcade of the chancel consists of two obtusely pointed arches, springing from the east and west walls of the chancel, and meeting over a curiously squat column, restored, but originally, if the restoration was accurate, of mid-13th-century date. The two arches are quite plain, having small chamfers at their edges, stopped at the ends. The arcade is not original, having been erected after the failure of its predecessor, owing to the pressure of the nave arcade having almost overturned the east wall of the nave, crushing the chancel arcade, and necessitating its rebuilding.⁵⁶ The original impost moulding may be seen at the east end of the chancel arcade. It is of rather primitive form, having merely a chamfer and a quirk, which suggests that the chapel is contemporary with the chancel itself. That the former is earlier than the south aisle of the nave is shown by the fragment of very early masonry, with its plinth, remaining at the north-eastern corner of that aisle. This masonry was apparently once external, and appears to have formed part of the northern jamb of the original western door of the south chapel, once the private chapel of Place House, to the south of the church.⁵⁷ At the west end of the north wall of the chancel is a large single-light 14th-century window with a foliated head, which appears to have replaced an

earlier window, the scar of which remains externally.⁵⁸ In the east wall of the chancel, next the south arcade, is a fine 14th-century piscina with shelf and foliated head, and in the south wall of the south chapel is a small plain piscina which may be of early date.

The wall between nave and chancel now contains an elaborate pseudo-Norman chancel arch which is entirely modern. It replaces an arch which was pointed instead of semicircular, as at present, but had mouldings which have been exactly reproduced in the modern arch.⁵⁹ South of the arch is a curious squint, roughly square, and with a central shaft formed out of part of a black basalt column having elaborate chevron ornament, and supporting the inverted base of a shaft, with spurs. The shaft-stone stands on a drum from another, larger, column. The form of the shaft-stone and base is identical with those which were discovered in the ruins of the cloister lavatory of Lewes Priory,⁶⁰ and the whole squint is obviously made from material taken from the priory after its destruction in 1537. The elaborate ornamentation of the stonework of the chancel arch suggests that it, too, came from the priory, and these facts, coupled with the appearance of the walling, suggest that the whole of the lower part of the wall between nave and chancel was rebuilt in the 16th century or later. The arch between the south aisle of the nave and the south chapel is semicircular and a modern rebuilding, although the imposts of the original late-12th-century arch remain and show a broad hollow chamfer and quirk. Behind the choir stalls, on the south side of the chancel, may be seen the remains of a 14th-century parclose screen which is believed to have once filled this arch. Corbels to carry the rood-beam remain at either end of the wall between chancel and nave, and there appears to have been another beam across the arch into the south chapel. Above the chancel arch is a small single-light window with a round bulls-eye on either side, all apparently of late-12th- or early-13th-century date.

The south arcade of the nave consists of two very large semicircular arches, with plain soffits chamfered and stopped. The arcade has been cut through the original south wall of the nave, a portion being retained at the west end to serve as impost. There is no respond at the east end, the arch springing from a simple moulding of hollow chamfer and quirk similar to that at the west end of the arcade. The central pillar of the arcade is of unusual interest. It is of a type which is best seen in the church of St. Anne, Lewes. The capital is square and elaborately ornamented with stiff-leaf foliage. The bell is planned for a centre column and engaged shafts. The actual column, however, has no shafts, so the little secondary capitals are supported by beautifully carved corbels of stiff-leaf design. The north-eastern corbel, however, has a tonsured head in place of stiff-leaf carving. The column rises from a water-holding Attic base on a square plinth. The arcade is badly distorted, and has almost overturned the east wall of the nave. The tower arch is plain, pointed, has no responds, and was apparently cut through the west wall of the nave at the end of the 12th century. The tower has been clumsily built up against the arch, hiding part of the chamfer on its western face. The arch at the west end of the south aisle has been rebuilt, although its responds

⁵⁶ In 1725 the arch between the chancel and 'the south chancel belonging to Place Farm' was falling down: Add. MS. 39446, fol. 7.

⁵⁷ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 198.

⁵⁸ P. M. Johnston, in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlii, 162, considers this window to be low-side.

⁵⁹ The stones of this arch remain in the garden of the Rectory.

⁶⁰ Information from W. H. Godfrey. See illustration: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xliii, 218.

appear to be of the end of the 12th century. It is later than the tower, however, as the external plinth of the latter may be seen within it. The west window of the baptistery is also of the end of the 12th century, being a single tall light, which may, however, have been removed from the end of the aisle when the baptistery was built. The structure has been so much restored at this point that it is difficult to tell the period at which this was effected, but the walls are medieval. The font has only been here since the modern vestry was built.

The roofs of both nave and chancel appear to be modern, though the queen-post trusses of the former may be original. The font has a simple square bowl ornamented with rather crudely incised arcading, and is of the end of the 12th century. There is a simple four-panelled cover of late-16th-century date. On the north wall of the baptistery is an old weather-vane from the tower, a fine piece of 18th-century ironwork, of

which the present vane is a copy. A palimpsest brass hangs on the north respond of the arch between the south aisle and the south chapel.⁶¹

The church has three early bells, one uninscribed, one by Bryan Eldridge, 1641, and the third dated 1664.⁶²

The church possesses a communion cup and paten bearing the mark for the year 1568, and another paten dating from about 1680.⁶³

The registers date from 1705. The church was restored in 1858.

There was a church at Rodmell at *ADFOVSON* the time of the Domesday Survey.

Between 1091 and 1095, William II of Warenne granted the church to Lewes Priory.⁶⁴ The advowson appears afterwards to have passed to the Bishop of Chichester, who has been patron at least since 1305.⁶⁵ In 1291 the church was valued at 23 marks,⁶⁶ and in 1535 at £15 6s. 0½d.⁶⁷

SOUTHEASE

Suesse (xi cent.); Southesse (xiii cent.); Suthese, Suesye, Southese (xiv cent.).

The parish of Southease lies in the Ouse valley about 3½ miles south of Lewes. It covers an area of 850 acres, of which about 4 acres are water.¹ Bounded on the north by the parish of Rodmell, on the south by Piddinghoe, and on the south-west by Telscombe, the parish covers Southease Hill between the limits of Cricketing Bottom and Broadgreen Bottom. The eastern boundary of the parish follows the old course of the river, which formerly made a detour of rather more than a mile on the Beddingham side. On both sides of the present course of the river there is marshland upon which cattle are pastured. On the slopes of Southease Hill corn is grown and sheep-walks are found higher on the Downs where the soil is thinner. The main road from Lewes to Newhaven crosses the parish from north to south.

The small village of Southease lies upon a road which descends from the high road to the river; the population in 1931 was 79;² in 1831 it was 142.³ The occupation of the neighbourhood is mainly agricultural. Chalk also has been worked here. Formerly, a ferry called Stock Ferry crossed the river at Southease, but an iron swing-bridge was constructed at this point in 1880.⁴ The path across the river leads to a Halt on the railway from Lewes to Seaford.

The cottages in the village mostly date from the beginning of the 17th century. A tall cottage at the southern end of the village is raised over a basement having a brick mullioned window. Immediately to the north of the church is the present vicarage, which retains within it traces of a half-timber house of the end of the 16th century. The remains are of a house of three bays, two of which belonged to the hall and the third to a parlour. The house ran north and south, and

along the west wall was the usual outshot aisle. The mutilated three-centred or segmental door-heads from the two main rooms to the outshot are still visible. A gable on the west of the house has, built into it, a stone panel about 7 in. square, set diagonally, and bearing the inscription *RIVI RARO RE VI RARO ARIDI*.⁵ In the centre of the panel is the monogram of IOHN RIVERS and above the inscription is the date 1604.

The manor of *SOUTHEASE* included *MANOR* the parish of Southease and part, at least, of

South Heighton, in Pevensey Rape. It is said to have been originally granted with 38 hides and a church by King Edred to Hyde Abbey.⁶ Later, in 996, King Edgar granted it to the abbey with 28 hides of land and a church.⁷ At the time of the Domesday Survey the manor was assessed for 27 hides. There were 130 acres of meadow, and land for 28 ploughs. The manor carried with it certain rights in Lewes, where 10 burgesses yielded 52 pence.⁸

The lords of the rape enjoyed the rights of free-warren and free fishery in the manor.⁹ In 1268 John Earl Warenne quitclaimed to the abbey for all their men of Southease and Telscombe all exactions and demands 'for all kinds of enclosure of walls and all other enclosures in his town of Lewes'.¹⁰

After the Dissolution, the manor probably remained in the king's hands for a time, for in January 1546 John Keme was appointed bailiff and collector of the manors of Southease, Telscombe, and Heighton,¹¹ formerly of



HYDE ABBEY. *Argent a lion and a chief sable with a pair of keys argent in the chief.*

⁶¹ The obverse is inscribed to the memory of John Broke and his wife Agatha, daughter of John de Rademeld and widow of Richard Weyvyle, and is dated 1433. The reverse commemorates John de la Chambre, 1673; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxix, 107.

⁶² *Ibid.* xvi, 221.

⁶³ *Ibid.* liv, 234.

⁶⁴ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 15, 21.

⁶⁵ *Cal. Pat.* 1301-7, p. 374; *Misc. Rec.*

(Suss. Rec. Soc. iv), 14; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.); Crockford, *Cler. Dir.* (1935).

⁶⁶ *Tax. Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), 136.

⁶⁷ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), i, 333.

¹ *Suss.* 6-in. O.S. (1st ed.).

² Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

³ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 224.

⁴ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

⁵ This should probably be read as—*RIVI RARO RORE REVIVI RARO ARIDI*. John Rivers obtained the advowson of Southease in 1603: see below. His predecessor was

Seth Rose, on whose name the inscription probably puns: *Suss. N. & Q.* vii, 54-5.

⁶ Dugdale, *Mon.* ii, 436b. Cf. *V.C.H. Hants*, ii, 116-21.

⁷ *Liber de Hyda* (Rolls Ser.), 203.

⁸ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 393.

⁹ *Plac. de Quo War.* (Rec. Com.), 750; *Cal. Pat.* 1416-22, p. 139; *ibid.* 1377-81, pp. 42-3.

¹⁰ *Misc. Rec.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iv), 79.

¹¹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xxi (1), 770.

the abbey of Hyde. In the reign of Edward VI, South-east was granted to Edward, Lord Clinton and Say, Leonard Irby, and the heirs of Lord Clinton.¹² Afterwards the manor apparently reverted to the Crown, for, in 1559, it was found by inquisition that Thomas Gratwyke held a windmill in Telscombe of the queen as of the manor of Southease.¹³ In 1602 the manor was granted to William Pennant and Richard Tomlyng for £80.¹⁴ The manor shortly afterwards passed to the Sackville family,¹⁵ and remained in that family at least until 1621.¹⁶ In 1623 Sir Thomas Springett was lord of the manor,¹⁷ and after his death in 1639,¹⁸ his son Sir Herbert Springett appears to have succeeded.¹⁹ He died in 1662,²⁰ and his widow Barbara held the manor

who held the courts between October 1756 and September 1767.²⁷ In August 1769 Ezekiel Dickenson²⁸ was lord of the manor, and he was succeeded, in October 1771, by Bernard Dickenson.²⁹ In 1835 the manor belonged to Mrs. Dickenson³⁰ and subsequently passed to the Rev. John Harman who owned it in 1853,³¹ but sold it in 1870 to W. Langham Christie.³² The present lord of the manor is Capt. John Christie.³³

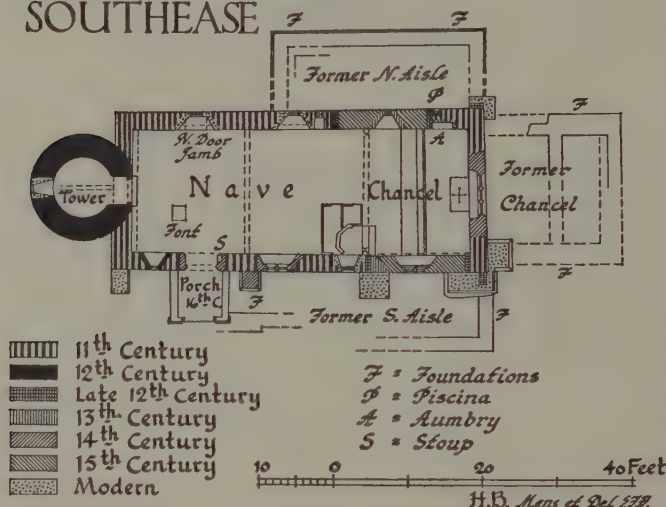
The custom of Borough English prevailed in the manor.³⁴ By the customs recorded in the 17th century every tenant of a virgate had yearly to plow half an acre and to harrow it 'two teyne for wheate and three teyne for barlye'. He had also to supply a reaper to do a day's work in each of two weeks on the lord's farm, and to carry two loads of corn, 'the one of wheat two sheafe high above the lades, the other of barly two rearing high the next weeke (friday & saturday excepted)'. For these services the tenant was given, on the first Sunday in Lent, for every virgate of land, 6 good herrings and one loaf and a half of wheaten bread, each loaf weighing two pounds and one ounce. While engaged on boon-work, the tenants were fed by the lord, each reaper being provided with 'two drinkings in the forenoone, breade & cheese, and a dyner at noone consisting of rost meate & other good victualls . . . & two drinkings in the afternoone, one in the midst of their afternoones worke; & the other at the end of their dayes worke, And drinke alwayes duringe their worke as neede shall require'.

The tenants in Heighton had to send a reaper for each virgate for two days in the year to Southease.³⁵ The reapers had to be at Stockferry at sunrise to

begin work. When the weather was unsuitable, the farmer had to be there ready to send the reapers away, but if he were late and the reapers had already crossed the ferry, it was reckoned a day's work. While at work, the reapers of this manor were given bread and cheese and drink fit for labouring men, and, at the end of the day, apple-pies or such like repast.

The church, of which the invocation is *CHURCH* unknown, stands at the northern end of the village, just beneath the main road, and at the north-west edge of the village green. It is built of flint and rubble, with stone dressings. It consists of a nave, the eastern end of which forms the chancel, a circular western tower, and a south porch. It had in addition a chancel, and short aisles on either side of the eastern part of the nave. These aisles are in the form of pre-Conquest *portici*, and as the nave is apparently of

PARISH CHURCH SOUTHEASE



until her death in 1697. Of the five children of this marriage, one, Elizabeth, married John Whalley, and it was possibly a son, Herbert Whalley who, with his wife Lucy, in 1688 quitclaimed their right in the manor to Ezekiel Hutchinson, Thomas Watson, and the heirs of Ezekiel Hutchinson,²¹ and subsequently to John Watson and his heirs.²² In 1694 Thomas Harris, senior, and Lucy his wife, late Lucy Whalley, made a further quitclaim of the manor to John Watson.²³ The latter held his first court as lord of the manor in April 1697.²⁴ Another John Watson held his first court in May 1717 and, dying in 1722, left the manor to his nephew John son of George Watson.²⁵ In 1735 John Watson and Hannah his wife and George Watson sold their interest in the manor to Thomas Barnard²⁶ who held the manorial courts between October 1735 and January 1749, being followed by Sir Thomas Barnard

¹² Pat. 8 Eliz. pt. vii, m. 6.

¹³ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iii), 6.

¹⁴ Pat. 44 Eliz. pt. xiii, m. 15. For customs of the manor see *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 220 *et seq.*

¹⁵ Burrell says that Thomas, Lord Buckhurst, was seised in 1603 and Cicely Dowager Countess, and Richard, Earl of Dorset, in 1610: Add. MS. 5684.

¹⁶ Add. MS. 39502, fol. 259, quoting Ct. R. In 1616 Richard, Earl of Dorset, and Anne his wife mortgaged the manor of Southease with Heighton to Lord William Howard and others: *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc.

xx), 323.

¹⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 220.

¹⁸ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 279.

¹⁹ Add. MS. 5684.

²⁰ Comber, *op. cit.* 281.

²¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 210.

²² *Ibid.*

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ Add. MS. 5684.

²⁵ Add. MS. 39502, fol. 259.

²⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 407. Cf. *Recov. R. East. 8 Geo. II, ro. 57.*

²⁷ Add. MS. 5684.

²⁸ *Ibid.* He had married Frances daughter

of Thomas Barnard: Add. MS. 39502, fol. 261.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, and also *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 408.

³⁰ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 197.

³¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll. vi*, 187. He was son of Ezekiel Harman, nephew of Bernard Dickenson.

³² *Ibid.*; Add. MS. 39502, fol. 262.

³³ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

³⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll. vi*, 186-7. For other customs of the manor see *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 220 *et seq.*

³⁵ *Ibid.* 224.

the pre-Conquest period, the vanished aisles may have been contemporary with it. The only visible connexion between aisles and nave, however, is by a single late-12th-century arch, now blocked, in each of the side walls of the latter. The west tower is a 12th-century addition to the nave. There is no trace of any chancel arch, nor any remains above ground of either chancel or aisles. The foundations, however, were discovered during recent years, and their angles have been marked out with metal strips let into the turf.

The present east window is an early-14th-century one of three lights, and there are two two-light 15th-century ones in the south wall of the church, the eastern angles of which are supported by heavy modern buttresses. Between the two windows noted above, is a tall, modern single-light window, having a modern buttress just to the east of it. The south door is 14th-century, and is covered by a restored 16th-century porch. Just east of this is a 14th-century buttress, and a modern one supports the south-west angle of the nave. Just west of the porch is a small mid-12th-century window. In the north-east corner of the church may be seen the arch leading to the vanished north aisle, in the south wall of which are a piscina and a bracket to carry a beam, possibly a rood-beam. The filling of the arch has a small single-light 13th-century window in it. West of the arch is a small single-light window, blocked, with a semicircular head and raking jambs. Adjoining this window is a modern single-light window, and another has been cut through the filling of the ancient north door. In 1916 some medieval floor-tiles were uncovered outside this door, which suggests that it may at one time have had a timber porch. The circular tower is an addition to the nave and is very plain, being capped by a steep conical roof.

The interior of the east end of the church shows, on either side, the blocked arches leading to the vanished aisles. They are obtusely pointed, very plain, and spring from simple late-12th-century impost mouldings. The northern arch has in it the single-light window already mentioned. The southern arch has a two-light 15th-century window, and this has replaced an elaborate window, apparently of the 13th century, the western jamb of which remains, with a hollow chamfer stopped at its foot with a stiff-leaf trefoil. The present chancel was formed in the 15th century by constructing an oak rood-screen and loft, the sawn-off ends of the beam of which remain. Some of the original colour may be seen on the eastern face of the north side of the screen-jambs. Practically the whole of the screen has been removed, and a modern timber arch inserted. A modern window fills the space once occupied by the entrance to the rood-loft. To the west of the screen, high up in the north wall, may be seen the wide reveal of the early window noted on the exterior of the church. It is remarkable in that it has no splay, and this fact, coupled with the rake of the external jambs, suggests that the window is pre-Conquest or very early Norman in date. High up in the north-east corner of the church is a small length of a very coarsely formed string-course or internal cornice, which seems almost certainly pre-Conquest.

At the south-west corner of the nave may be seen the deeply splayed later Norman window.

There is a simple rectangular aumbry in the north-east corner of the church, and in the eastern reveal of the south door is a stoup formed from a Norman cubical capital, apparently once the head of a pillar piscina. The font is plain, probably later 12th century, and has been repaired. There is a good altar-rail of early-17th-century character, and some of the old pews remain. These may be late-16th-century; some of them are carved with bands of ornament. There is a Georgian Royal Arms painted on a panel. The church is notable for its mural paintings, carefully restored in 1934-5.³⁶ The line of the early string-course noted above has been carried along the north wall with an ornamented chevron pattern. Below this is a series of scenes depicting the Life of Christ. These paintings are considered to date from the middle of the 13th century. The west wall has a Majesty above extensive subjects now indecipherable. These are believed to date from the end of the 13th century. Two painted consecration crosses may be seen on either side of the tower door.

In the chancel is the grave of Dr. Edward Boughen, a notable royalist divine, who died 9 November 1653.³⁷

The tower contains two medieval bells, one of which, considered to be late-13th-century, is inscribed with the name of the founder, John Aleyn.³⁸

The church possesses a communion cup having a pre-Reformation foot, and a paten probably dating from about 1500 with an added foot marked for 1568.³⁹

The registers date from 1556.

The advowson of the church of *ADVOWSON* Southease was granted to the abbey of Hyde by King Edred⁴⁰ and confirmed to the abbey by the grant of King Edgar in 996.⁴¹ The patronage appears to have remained in the possession of the abbots until the monastery was dissolved by Henry VIII. In 1291 it was valued at 12 marks⁴² and in 1535 at £16 or. 6d.⁴³ In 1544 William Burnell bought the advowson in the Court of Augmentations.⁴⁴ It afterwards belonged to John Kyme, who died in April 1585, bequeathing it to his niece Joan, the wife of George Pawlett,⁴⁵ who in 1590 conveyed it to Seth Awcock,⁴⁶ the son of Kyme's sister. In the following year, Awcock was amerced because the advowson had been alienated without royal licence.⁴⁷ He conveyed it to the Rev. Edward Rose,⁴⁸ and in 1603 Seth Rose was granted licence to alienate it to John Rivers.⁴⁹ The latter is said to have conveyed it in January 1604 to Thomas Comber,⁵⁰ but according to another authority Thomas Comber bought it of George Awcock or his heirs.⁵¹ Comber was later amerced for purchasing the advowson without licence, but was pardoned in 1608.⁵² In 1613, by his will, Thomas Comber devised the advowson to John Alwyn, 'my daughter's son',⁵³ and he, together with John the son of Thomas Comber presented to the church in 1615.⁵⁴ Two years afterwards, the advowson was sold to the Rev. Geoffrey Amherst, the vicar,⁵⁵ who in 1647 left it to Arthur Amherst his eldest son.⁵⁶ In 1723 Geoffrey Amherst presented Thomas Chatfield to the living, apparently on the under-

³⁶ Described in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxviii.

³⁷ *Suss. N. & Q.* vi, 52. The date of his death is given wrongly in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

³⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 224.

³⁹ *Ibid.* liv, 235.

⁴⁰ Dugdale, *Mon.* ii, 436b.

⁴¹ *Liber de Hyda* (Rolls Ser.), 203.

⁴² *Tax. Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), 136.

⁴³ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), i, 333.

⁴⁴ Pat. 36 Hen. VIII, pt. x, m. 16.

⁴⁵ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 631.

⁴⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 242.

⁴⁷ Pat. 33 Eliz. pt. i, m. 18.

⁴⁸ Add. MS. 39476, fol. 110.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

⁵¹ *Misc. Rec.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iv), 16, where in Aug. 1603 the patron was said to be George Awcock, late deceased.

⁵² Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Lewes), 66.

⁵³ Add. MS. 39476, fol. 111.

⁵⁴ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁵⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 407.

⁵⁶ Add. MS. 39476, fol. 111.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

standing that the latter's father, the Rev. Thomas Chatfield, rector of Balcombe, would purchase the advowson.⁵⁷ By his will, the rector of Balcombe in 1730 bequeathed the advowson to his son John Chatfield with the proviso that his son-in-law Henry Bray and Sarah Chatfield his widow, should present his son John to the living at its next voidance.⁵⁸ The advowson belonged to the Chatfield family until 1811⁵⁹ when the Rev. Henry Chatfield sold it to Dymoke Wells. The latter conveyed it in 1835 to Fuller Wenham

Lewis,⁶⁰ of whom it was purchased in 1843 by William Alfrey.⁶¹

In 1854 Lawrence John Torkington undertook to buy the advowson from William Alfrey.⁶² When William Alfrey died, two years later, Torkington had not completed payment and so a fresh agreement was made by which the advowson was conveyed to Samuel Webb Thomas,⁶³ who was still patron and incumbent at his death in 1904.⁶⁴ The present patron is the Rev. W. W. Thomas.⁶⁵

TELSCOMBE

Titelescumb (x cent.); Tetelescombe (xiii cent.); Totelescoumbe, Thekelescumbe (xiv cent.); Tellescomb, Tilescomb (xvii cent.).

Telscombe is a small village lying at the head of a coombe which rises from the right bank of the River Ouse about 2 miles above Newhaven. The only approach by road, however, is from Southease, a mile farther up-stream, whence a road climbs the slopes of Southease Hill, a mile and a half from the village, and drops steeply into the head of the coombe in which lies the village of Telscombe. The cottages forming the village are ranged along this road, which, passing the manor house and church, climbs the Downs beyond to lose itself on the open common known as Telscombe Tye, rather more than 300 ft. above the sea. The southern edge of the Tye is the main road from Newhaven to Brighton, which, passing along the edge of the sea-cliffs, forms the base-line of the modern bungalow colony of Telscombe Cliffs, which extends inland for a mile or so. In the western corner of the parish is the Portobello Coastguard Station. A footpath runs from beside the church, and along the ridge of Bullock Down, to Piddinghoe, with which village Telscombe is now joined ecclesiastically.

There is a large farm and racing-stable at the head of the village street opposite the church. Some of the cottages are old; Oak Cottage has good timber ceilings with even the secondary joists chamfered and stopped, and Box Tree Cottage has also good ceilings and part of its plaster 'chimney' remaining in the first floor, although the medieval fire-place on the ground floor is a modern insertion. The manor-house, on the east side of the road, has been very much altered, but there are still a few remains of its original timber construction, probably of the late 16th century. On one of the beams is carved the date 'MDIX', but the carving appears to be modern. The southern slopes of Southease Hill show medieval lynchets. To-day, however, the land is mostly pasture for sheep, the Downs to the north-west of the village being also used for the training of racehorses, which is the chief occupation of the inhabitants. The parish contains 1,180 acres of land and 79 of foreshore. In 1931 the population was 585, compared with 120 in 1901.

There is still much common land within the parish, notably the Tye, upon which the rector may graze as many tegs as 3 acres will support.¹ By an Act of 1810, 454 acres of common field arable and 236 acres of pasture were enclosed.²

The occupation of the parish is largely agricultural, although gravel and sand have been worked in Telscombe Cliffs. At the end of the 18th century the parish was said to be almost exclusively inhabited by smugglers.³

The manor of *TELSCOMBE* and 10 *MANOR* hides of land were granted together with the manor of Southease (q.v.) in 996 by King Edgar to the abbey of Hyde.⁴ This grant was perhaps a confirmation of an earlier one made by King Edred.⁵

Telscombe followed the descent of Southease until January 1546,⁶ at which date John Keme was appointed bailiff by the king. In 1551 the capital messuage and demesne lands were granted to Sir William Thomas, one of the clerks of the Privy Council,⁷ and the demesne lands were in the possession of Sir Richard Sackville at his death in 1566.⁸

His son and heir, Thomas, Earl of Dorset, is said to have been seised of the manor in 1603⁹ and his grandson, Richard, Earl of Dorset, was dealing with it by fine in 1610 and 1616.¹⁰ In 1623 the earl sold the manor to William Garfoot,¹¹ who in 1630 sold it to Richard Gurnard, or Gurney, clothier of London, Lord Mayor in 1641, when he was created baronet.¹² Sir Richard Gurney parted with most of the lands of the manor, and by his will, September 1647, directed that the lordship should be sold.¹³ In 1652 the manor was conveyed to Stephen Penkhurst,¹⁴ but in January 1657 Robert Plumer held his first court and was succeeded in October 1680 by James Plumer,¹⁵ who sold the manor to Henry Shelley in 1686.¹⁶ The latter died in December 1691,¹⁷ and was apparently succeeded by Richard Shelley,¹⁸ who died in May 1716.¹⁹ His heir was Henry Shelley, who died in 1735;²⁰ and his son Henry held courts there until 1775.²¹ His son Henry died seised of the manor in 1805.²² His son, yet another Henry, died unmarried in 1811,²³ after which the manor appears to have been divided between his three sisters,

⁵⁷ Add. MS. 39476, fols. 118-19.

⁵⁸ Ibid. fol. 119; cf. Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁵⁹ Add. MS. 39476, fol. 119.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² Add. MS. 39469, fol. 273.

⁶³ Ibid. fol. 274.

⁶⁴ *Southease Church Guide*.

⁶⁵ Crockford, *Cler. Dir.*

¹ Information supplied by the Rev. H. Martyn Harries.

² Slater, *Eng. Peasantry and Enclosure*

of Common Fields, 302.

³ Add. MS. 5684.

⁴ *Liber de Hyda* (Rolls Ser.), 203.

⁵ Dugdale, *Mon.* ii, 436b (ed. 1817-30).

⁶ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xxi, g. 156b.

⁷ *Cal. Pat.* 1549-51, pp. 421-2.

⁸ *Ing.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiii), 23.

⁹ Add. MS. 5684.

¹⁰ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 73; (xx),

323.

¹¹ Add. MS. 39503, fol. 50.

¹² G.E.C. *Baronetage*, ii, 147.

¹³ Add. MS. 39503, fol. 55.

¹⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 433.

¹⁵ Add. MS. 5684.

¹⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 433.

¹⁷ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 250.

¹⁸ Add. MS. 5684.

¹⁹ *Comber*, loc. cit.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Add. MS. 5684.

²² *Comber*, op. cit. 251.

²³ Ibid.

Elizabeth and Cordelia Shelley, and Eleanor Dalbiac.²⁴ In 1824 George John Dalbiac and Eleanor conveyed their third to the two other sisters.²⁵ In 1853 Cordelia Shelley was sole owner.²⁶ She bequeathed the property to her three nephews, the sons of her sister Eleanor and George John Dalbiac.²⁷ On 15 December 1900 Mrs. Mary Dalbiac (a widow), conveyed the manor to Mr. James Ambrose Harman, who subsequently, on 1 September 1924 conveyed it to Mr. Charles William Neville the present owner.²⁸



SHELLEY. *Sable a fesse engrailed between three wheelk-shells or.*

A windmill formerly stood in the parish, beside Prestway.²⁹ In 1558 it belonged to Thomas Gratwick.³⁰

The custom of Borough English prevailed in Telscombe.³¹

The church of *ST. LAWRENCE* stands on the hill-side at the *CHURCH* head of the village street.

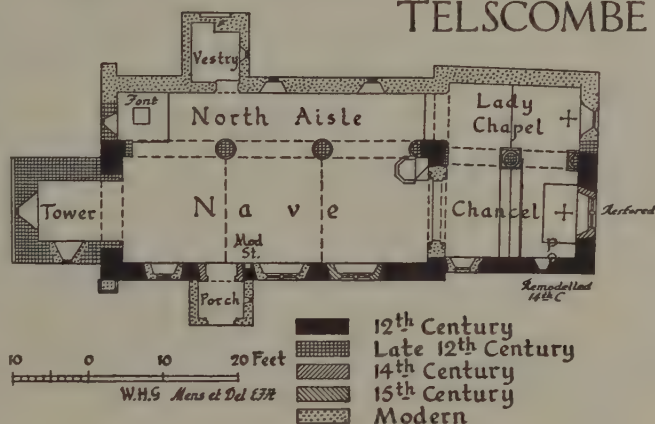
It consists of a nave and chancel, both with north aisles, a west tower, and a south porch balanced by a porch-like vestry on the north of the nave. The nave and chancel are probably of the mid-12th century, to which the aisles and tower were added at the very end of the century. The porch and vestry are modern. The church was restored in 1903 and again in 1922.

The east end of the chancel is lit by a restored two-light 14th-century window with trefoil-headed lights and quatrefoil above within a two-centred arch. The single-light window at the east end of the south wall of the chancel shows as a 14th-century light externally, but internal indications suggest that it is a remodelled mid-12th-century window. West of this is a restored single-light window which may have originally been low-side.³² The south-east window of the nave is a two-light 15th-century window with a square head and label-mould. The one to the west of it is a modern copy of it. The porch is modern, but covers a 14th-century south door. The east window of the north aisle is a curious circular-headed iron casement of modern date. The whole of the north wall of the church, with the vestry, is modern, and the masonry of the west wall of the aisle suggests that the aisle was widened when it was rebuilt. The west window of the aisle is a tall narrow light with a semicircular head, dating from the end of the 12th century. The west window of the tower is similar, and the south is modern. The tower itself is very plain, capped with a pyramidal shingled roof, and the belfry is lit by narrow lancets. The lower part of the tower and the west wall of the aisle show a facing of iron-stone rubble, but the remainder of the church has a flint facing with stone dressings.

The whole of the interior of the church has been

painted with oil paint, during a recent restoration, when false stone-work was drawn in paint over the original stone dressings. There is an interesting piscina, having a square projecting marble bowl with carved acanthus-type leaf-work on its underside. It appears to be of the 12th century. The north arcade of the chancel is of two obtusely pointed arches.³³ The central pillar has a square capital, designed for a central shaft and four surrounding shafts. The column has no shafts, however, so the secondary capitals are supported by small corbels carved with stiff-leaf foliage to match that on the bell. The eastern respond is similar, but the shaft of the column is segmental on plan. The type of capital is that which may be seen at St. Anne's Church, Lewes, and at Rodmell. The western impost of the chancel arcade has no respond, being merely a corbel resembling part of a scalloped capital, which, together

PARISH CHURCH of ST. LAWRENCE TELSCOMBE



with the other two capitals of this arcade, has been much restored. The chancel arch is a pseudo-Norman monstrosity, thickly covered with paint. The frescoes on the east walls of chancel and nave are modern. The north arcade of the nave has three plain arches, clumsily rebuilt during the restoration and thickly painted with impossible stone jointing. The two columns, however, are original, and date from the end of the 12th century. They are circular, have simple capitals with hollow, uncarved bells and astragal. They are very similar to those in the chancel at Piddinghoe. The tower arch is plain, obtusely pointed, and has no responds; a modern string-course forms imposts.

The font has a square bowl mounted on a square pedestal having on each face two rectangular recessed panels, each containing a tall, narrow trefoil-headed panel. The lead settings for the locking-staples of the cover remain on the upper surface of the bowl. The font is apparently of the 13th century, and resembles that at Piddinghoe. In the north aisle is a chest of late-16th- or early-17th-century date, and, over the south door, are the royal arms, very well carved in high relief. The technique suggests that of a ship's figure-head, and the work is probably of the 17th or 18th century.

There is one bell, by John Palmer, dated 1649.³⁴

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 433.

²⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 188-9.

²⁷ Comber, loc. cit.

²⁸ *Ex. inf.* C. W. Neville, Esq.

²⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xxi (1), 1537 (20).

³⁰ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iii), 6.

³¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 188-9.

³² See paper by P. M. Johnston in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlii, 162.

³³ In a drawing of c. 1785 (Add. MS. 5677, fol. 45, here reproduced) the arches are shown as round; the aisle had then disappeared and the arcade was blocked.

³⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 266.

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The church possesses an Elizabethan communion cup with a pre-Reformation foot.³⁵

The register of baptisms dates from 1684, that of marriages from 1701, and the register of burials dates from 1697.

In the late 18th century Burrell wrote:

'This is another of those buildings nicknamed pigeon-houses. When I was there, I found a large breach in the Roof of the Body of the Church, the Room and seats [which were almost destroyed] defiled with Birds' Dung, and a Pigeon on the Communion Table. On inquiry, I found that the Rector lived in London, that there was no register kept according to the forms prescribed by Act of Parliament and that the Births, Marriages, and Burials are entered promiscuously.'³⁶

In 1389 it was stated that the abbey *ADVOWSON* of Hyde had held the advowson with the manor from time immemorial.³⁷ The church was valued at 20 marks in 1291³⁸ and at £13 13s. 4d. in the 16th century.³⁹

After the Dissolution the advowson appears to have been retained by the Crown, since in 1557 the king and queen presented.⁴⁰ In 1559 the advowson was granted to Richard Baker and others.⁴¹ Thomas Lord Buckhurst presented in 1578-9⁴² and in 1604,⁴³ and the advowson remained in the Dorset family until 1710,⁴⁴ although presentations were made in 1664 by the Crown,⁴⁵ in 1680 by Mary, widow of Francis Chaloner,⁴⁶ in 1694 by Elizabeth, widow of John Chaloner,⁴⁷ and in 1697 by the Crown again.⁴⁸

In 1715, and again in 1718, the advowson was quitclaimed by Simon Jones and Elizabeth his wife, and John Webb and Jane his wife, to Jeremiah Junnys.⁴⁹ In 1727 the patron was Richard Mills.⁵⁰ He was succeeded by James Mills, who with his wife Elizabeth quitclaimed the advowson to Richard Stanton and Edward Weedon and the heirs of Richard Stanton.⁵¹ Thomas Crew was patron in 1740,⁵² and Thomas Crew and John Philpott presented in 1779.⁵³ Six years later, the latter was sole patron.⁵⁴ Presentation was made in 1825 by John Michell together with James Charles Michell, the nominee of Martha Michell, widow of James Hutchins,⁵⁵ although John Philpot was

said to be patron in 1835, at which time the rector was the Rev. James Hutchins,⁵⁶ who was also patron and vicar of Piddinghoe (q.v.).⁵⁷ The living was united to that of Piddinghoe by an Order in Council dated 30 April 1877, and in June of that year George Hutchins was instituted on his own presentation.⁵⁸ He sold the advowson in the following year to Pierre de Putron.⁵⁹ The latter conveyed it in 1884 to his son Geoffrey or Godfrey⁶⁰ who continued to present until January 1901. Between September 1910 and August 1931 presentations were made by the late Ambrose Gorham.⁶¹ The living is now in the hands of the Gorham trustees, namely the Rector of Telscombe and the Town Clerk of Brighton, *ex officio*, one member elected by the Parochial Church Council, and three aldermen elected by the Brighton Corporation.⁶²

Gorham's Gift. Ambrose Gorham, *CHARITY* by will proved 6 Sept. 1933, gave his residuary estate (real and personal) including his grazing rights at Telscombe, his advowson of the united parishes of Telscombe and Piddinghoe, the Village Club, and land at Telscombe, and all other his freehold property at Telscombe to the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of Brighton upon trust, to hold the same upon the trusts mentioned therein.

The charity is now regulated by a Scheme of the High Court, dated 10 Dec. 1935, which appoints a body of six trustees to manage the property and administer the charity, and directs that after payment of the expenses of management the income shall be applied:

- (a) one moiety in augmentation of the stipend of the incumbent of Telscombe;
- (b) the remaining moiety to be applied as follows:
 - (1) £50 to the incumbent and churchwardens for distribution among ten of the deserving poor of the village of Telscombe.
 - (2) £100 for the repair and maintenance of Telscombe Church.
 - (3) £100 for the repair and maintenance of Telscombe Church Schools.
 - (4) £100 to the committee of Telscombe Club for the repair and maintenance of the club premises.

³⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 236.

³⁶ Add. MS. 5698, fol. 309.

³⁷ *Suss. N. & Q.* iv, 116.

³⁸ *Tax. Eccl. (Rec. Com.)*, 136.

³⁹ *Valor Eccl. (Rec. Com.)*, i, 333.

⁴⁰ Add. MS. 39348, fol. 93.

⁴¹ Ibid. 5698, fol. 309. See under Kingston near Lewes in Swanborough Hundred.

⁴² Ibid. 39348, fol. 93.

⁴³ *Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.)*.

⁴⁴ *Fines (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix)*, 272-4.

⁴⁵ *Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.)*.

⁴⁶ Add. MS. 39348, fol. 98.

⁴⁷ Ibid. fol. 95; *Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.)*.

⁴⁸ *Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.)*.

⁴⁹ *Fines (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix)*, 182.

⁵⁰ Add. MS. 39348, fol. 99.

⁵¹ *Fines (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix)*, 182.

⁵² *Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.)*.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Add. MS. 39348, fol. 100.

⁵⁶ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 191.

⁵⁷ Ibid. 196.

⁵⁸ *Ex inf.* the Registrar of the diocese of Chichester; cf. Add. MS. 39348, fol. 100.

⁵⁹ Ibid. fol. 101.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ *Ex inf.* the Registrar of the diocese of Chichester.

⁶² *Ex inf.* the Rev. H. Martyn Harries, the Rector.



TELSCOMBE CHURCH, FROM THE NORTH-EAST, *c.* 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



BARCOMBE CHURCH, FROM THE NORTH-EAST, *c.* 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)

THE HUNDRED OF BARCOMBE

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

BARCOMBE

HAMSEY

NEWICK

AT the time of the Domesday Survey the hundred of Barcombe was composed of Barcombe, Hamsey, and Allington.¹ The hundred was not divided into villas for the subsidy of 1296,² but in 1316 Barcombe, Hamsey, and Newick were the three divisions,³ and in 1327 and 1332 the subsidies were assessed under Northborgh, Middleborgh, and Southborgh,⁴ corresponding with the 17th-century and present-day Newick, Barcombe, and Hamsey.⁵ Two constables were chosen annually for the hundred at least down to the 17th century, the one from Hamsey apparently comprehending the parishes of Hamsey and St. John Without (Lewes),⁶ in which latter parish part at any rate of the Domesday Allington was included. The constable for Barcombe had jurisdiction in the parishes of Barcombe and Newick and was chosen for two years in Barcombe and the third in Newick.⁷

The hundred descended with the rape and was subject to the same partitions.

¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i. 442-3. Part of Allington is now included in the parish of St. John Without, Lewes (see above, p. 33).

² *Subs.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* x), 49-50.

³ *Feud. Aids*, v. 135.

⁴ *Subs.* 181-3, 295-6.

⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 74-5 (*Subs.* of 1621); *Bk. of John Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv), 135.

⁶ *Ibid.* Cf. *Pl. N. Suss.* ii, 321. See above, p. 33.

⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 135, 136.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

BARCOMBE

Bercham (xii cent.); Bercompe, Bercampe (xiii and xiv cent.); Berkham, Berecompe (xv cent.).

Situated on the River Ouse, which forms its eastern boundary, the parish of Barcombe covers an area of 4,997 acres of land and 34 of water. It includes the hamlet of Spithurst. The land in the village and on the east by the river valley lies at an average level of 50 ft., but rises to 200 ft. in the west. The soil is mixed loam and the subsoil clay. The main crops are wheat, oats, and beans. The village stands 4 miles north of Lewes, 5 miles south-west of Uckfield, and 47 from London. It has two railway stations, one at Barcombe Cross, the other at Barcombe Mills in the extreme east.

Court Lodge Farm (now Court House) was a hall house of the 15th century. The main structure is rectangular in plan with four bays, of which the two central formed a hall; the end bays contained two floors from the first, the uppermost projecting west. About 1565¹ an external chimney-stack was added on the south end, and this is visible in the later brick extension, now a garage. At the same time a two-storied block was added on the south-east angle, with wide lintelled fire-places,² and a floor was inserted into the hall. The exterior shows Georgian and modern work alone; the projecting upper stories were underpinned by a brick wall, which formed a straight west front. In the attics the central king-post can be seen, with chamfered shaft and capital; the other tie-beams have plain strutted posts. The great central braces are visible on the first floor, and beneath this the chamfered beams of the 16th-century insertion. Original north-south beams are exposed in the end bays, the southern of which is divided from the hall by a 16th-century partition.

A large weather-boarded barn, west of the house, is of 16th- or 17th-century date, with tie-beams, curved struts, and wind-braces. There are other farm buildings to the north, some with a moulded plinth, possibly stone-work from Lewes Priory.

Balneath Manor, in the north-west part of the parish, contains interior features of c. 1500. The dining-room has a moulded beam and wide lintelled fire-place. Other rooms have contemporary fire-places, and there is a blocked window to the south with wooden bars diagonally set. The servants' quarters show timber framework with wide panels, some with thin brick-nogging; one plastered panel has the date 1788 scratched on it.

Camois Court, on the west side of the road between Barcombe and Barcombe Cross, has 17th-century stop-chamfered beams, a contemporary door, and curious twisted columnar newels, two supporting an arch in the hall and a larger one in the staircase. There are others

at the Anchor, and Ewhurst, Spithurst. These all appear to have been ship furniture introduced by Sir William Grantham when he reconditioned these houses about the beginning of this century.

Gipps Farm, on the northern boundary of the parish, is a late-16th-century house of L-shaped plan, timber-framed with square panels, partly filled with later brick. There is a central chimney, apparently rebuilt, serving wide double fire-places.

Conyboro' Park, formerly the seat of the Raynes and Medleys, is now owned by Lady Monk Bretton, the present lady of the manor. The late-17th-century house³ was destroyed about 1816. The modern mansion, built in the Italian style, stands in a park of about 60 acres, in the west of the parish. A mission hall in the village and a reading-room were erected about 1898 and 1902 by the late Sir William Grantham. There is also an undenominational mission room and a Calvinistic Chapel just off the Hamsey road. The population in 1931 was 1,248. By the East Sussex Review Order of 1934 a detached part of Newick was added to Barcombe in exchange for a similar part of Barcombe.⁴

Before the Conquest Azor held *BAR-MANORS COMBE* of Earl Godwin for 13 hides: in 1086 William de Wateville held it of Earl Warenne for 10½ hides, the rest lying in the Count of Mortain's rape.⁵ The overlordship of the 14 fees of which the manor of Barcombe formed part descended with the rape, but as 7 fees went in 1439 to Edmund Lenthall and 7 to the Duke of Norfolk,⁶ the overlordship of the manor is uncertain from that time until 1536, when the king took it into his own hands after the attainder of Nicholas Carew.⁷

William de Wateville's lands appear to have escheated to his overlord and to have been granted to Rainald de Warenne, illegitimate son of William, Earl Warenne II.⁸ A manor of Barcombe⁹ then descended with Plumpton (q.v.) in the family of Bardolf, descendants of Beatrice, grand-daughter of Rainald de Warenne, who married Doun Bardolf. William Bardolf obtained a grant of free warren here in 1254.¹⁰ In 1304 the manor was held as ¼ fee by his grandson Hugh, Lord Bardolf.¹¹

The manor continued to be held with Plumpton¹² until the attainder of Nicholas Carew in 1536 and the subsequent grant by the king to Elizabeth widow of Nicholas for life, with remainder to her son Francis.¹³ In the next year the site and demesnes of the manor of Barcombe, with fishery in the brook, were leased to Henry Coke for 21 years,¹⁴ but in 1555 Francis Carew was dealing with the manor.¹⁵ In 1572 he conveyed it to George Goring,¹⁶ in whose family it remained¹⁷

¹ *Suss. N. & Q.* iii, 202. Survey of Manors in Sussex held by Francis Carew in March, 7 Eliz. (Add. MS. 37688):

'In the mansyon there ys a hawle with a chymney newly buylded a little parlour without a Chymney ij chambers with chymneys and divers other chambers a Kitchyn a brewhouse and a bakehouse and the moste thereof covered with stone of horseham and the rest with Tyle.

'Item there ys a gatehouse other out houses for a Stabull and a Stall and there ys one barne and one house newly buylded

for a pigeon house.'

² There is an 18th-century fire-place above.

³ A view by Grimm in 1790 is given in Add. MS. 5678, fol. 20.

⁴ Kelly, *Suss. Directory*, 1934.

⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 442 and n., 420 and nn.; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 322, 339.

⁶ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 187, 188.

⁷ *Ibid.* 138, 196.

⁸ Farrer, *op. cit.* 323-4.

⁹ Concerning the manor of Barcombe

of which Alice widow of Hugh de Plaiz demanded one-third in dower in 1256 (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 607) no more is heard.

¹⁰ *Cal. Pat.* 1247-58, p. 313.

¹¹ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* iv, 236.

¹² *Cf. Feud. Aids*, vi, 525.

¹³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiv (2), g. 113 (5).

¹⁴ *Ibid.* xv, g. 612 (2).

¹⁵ *Recov. R.* 1 & 2 Ph. & M. ro. 153; *Cal. Deeds* (Lewes), A, no. 22.

¹⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 19.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* xxxiv, 196; Add. MS. 39488, fol. 184. Conveyances in 1663 by Thomas

until the death of a later George Goring, who by his will, dated 28 Dec. 1727, ordered that it should be sold.¹⁸ Edward Medley bought the manor in 1743 for £3,060,¹⁹ and from him it descended to Julia Shuckburgh-Evelyn, who died in 1814. Her husband Charles Cecil Cope Jenkinson, Earl of Liverpool, was holding the property in 1835.²⁰ He died in 1851, leaving three daughters as co-heirs, and Barcombe was subsequently sold to Sir John Dodson, who held his first court of the manor in 1856.²¹ In 1937 the manor was vested in the trustees of his great-grandson, the 3rd Baron Monk Bretton, who succeeded to the title, as a minor, in 1933.²²



DODSON, Lord Monk Bretton. *Argent a ragged fesse plain cotised between six fleurs de lis gules with a sword argent its hilt and pomel or upon the fesse.*

The manor of CAMOYS COURT *alias* BARKHAM CAMOYS, lying partly in Barcombe, but also in Ditchling and Newick, was probably represented about 1198 by land held by Maud de Bercamp.²³ The overlordship descended with the rape. In the division of the barony in 1439 the 1½ knight's fees formerly held by John de Gadesden, in which this land was included, were divided. Half a fee in Ditchling was assigned to Elizabeth, Lady Bergavenny;²⁴ one fee in Bevendean and Barcombe went to the Duke of Norfolk.²⁵ In 1543, however, Camoys Court was held of the joint owners of the barony,²⁶ and it still owed suit at the court of Lewes²⁷ down to 1835 at least.²⁸

From Maud de Bercamp the holding passed to her son Ralph de Pierpoint;²⁹ but William de Pierpoint, who held demesne in Barcombe in 1235,³⁰ had sold his land there by 1242 to John de Gadesden or Gadesden³¹ who was then holding 3 knight's fees in 'Bercompe'.³² John married Hawise Savage, widow of John de Nevill, in about 1246³³ and died in 1262.³⁴ Hawise died about 1269.³⁵ The marriage of John's grand-daughter and heiress Margaret was granted to Robert Waleraund.³⁶ In or about 1279 Margaret married Sir John de Camoys³⁷ but deserted him for William Paynel, whom she married after Sir John's death in 1298.³⁸ Margaret died about January 1311 and her son Ralph de Camoys was holding land in the vill of Barcombe in 1316.³⁹ On his death in 1336⁴⁰ his lands passed to his son Thomas, who died without issue in 1372 holding the reversion of the manor, after

the death of William de Mallynge, jointly with his wife Margaret.⁴¹ She was still holding them in 1386.⁴² Sir Thomas de Camoys, his nephew, succeeded him.⁴³ In 1412 his lands in Barcombe were worth £5 a year⁴⁴ and in 1428 were assessed as ¼ knight's fee.⁴⁵ He died in 1421,⁴⁶ and was succeeded by his grandson Hugh, then aged seven, on whose death in 1426 the Camoys property descended to his sisters, Margaret, wife of Ralph Radmylde, and Eleanor, wife of Roger Lewknor of Trotton.⁴⁷ Ralph Radmylde survived Margaret and died in 1443, when her half of the manor passed to their son Robert, then aged 18.⁴⁸ Robert was succeeded in 1457 by a son William, a child of 6,⁴⁹ but this part of the manor appears soon to have passed to Roger Lewknor, in whose family the whole manor descended. At this date the manor was still known as Barcombe, but later it acquired the name Camoys Court. From Roger it passed to his son Sir Thomas



CAMOYS. *Argent a chief gules with three roundels argent therein.*



LEWKNOR. *Azure three cheverons argent.*

Lewknor of Trotton in 1478, and in 1484 to his grandson Sir Roger, when the male line died out in 1543.⁵⁰ The manor then descended for a time in the same way as Warningore⁵¹ (q.v.), being divided among Roger's three infant daughters—Katherine, who married first John Mill, and secondly, William Morgan; Mabel, wife of Anthony Stapley; and Constance, wife first of Thomas Foster and then of Edward Glemham. By 1587 Katherine's third had descended to Lewknor Mill, her grandson by her first husband.⁵² Mabel and her husband had evidently died without issue, for thereafter the manor descended in two portions, one half in the Mill family and the other in the Fosters, descendants of Constance by her first husband. The first half remained with Sir John Mill, bart. (son of Lewknor), and his descendants until 1666, when it was sold to William Lane, whose daughter Elizabeth married John Smith of Hamsey.⁵³ In 1709 the children

Goring to Henry Byne and by Byne to Richard Isted (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 19; *Recov. R. Hil.* 15-16 Chas. II, ro. 102) were presumably for mortgage or settlement.

¹⁸ Add. MS. 39488, fol. 184.

¹⁹ Horsfield, *Suss.* i, 222.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ *Ex inf.* Mr. Charles Gray, of Messrs. Strutt & Parker, Lewes.

²² *Ex inf.* Mr. J. I. Blencowe.

²³ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 339.

²⁴ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 190.

²⁵ Ibid. 188. Bevendean is in Falmer parish, hundred of Younsmere.

²⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 8.

²⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 194.

²⁸ Horsfield, *Suss.* i, 222.

²⁹ Farrer, *op. cit.* 332; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, 110.

³⁰ *Lewes Chart.* (ibid. xl), 56.

³¹ *Cal. Chart.* i, 265; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* i,

706; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lv, 29.

³² *Bk. of Fees*, 690.

³³ Farrer, *op. cit.* 340; *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 447 b, note 6.

³⁴ *Excerpt. Fin.* ii, 370, 377, 384.

³⁵ *Cal. Close*, 1268-72, p. 34; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* i, 706.

³⁶ Ibid. Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxx, 123. John's son (by a previous marriage) John had died in 1258, when his daughter Margaret was 13, leaving a widow Margery: *Cal. Inq. p.m.* i, 454.

³⁷ *Plac. de Quo War.* (Rec. Com.), 755.

³⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lv, 31-2; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 506; *Rot. Parl.* i, 147.

³⁹ *Feud. Aids*, v, 136.

⁴⁰ G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁴¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 46 Edw. III, 15.

⁴² *Cal. Close*, 1385-9, p. 134.

⁴³ G.E.C. *op. cit.* ii, 507.

⁴⁴ *Feud. Aids*, vi, 521.

⁴⁵ Ibid. v, 162.

⁴⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 9 Hen. V, no. 29.

⁴⁷ G.E.C. *op. cit.* ii, 508, 510, 511; *Comber, Suss. Gen. Lewes*, 150; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* iii, 94, 95. In 1433 Sir Roger Camoys, younger son of Sir Thomas Camoys, ceded to Roger Lewknor and Eleanor all his right in Barcombe and other manors: *Add. Chart.* 20055.

⁴⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 21 Hen. VI, no. 34.

⁴⁹ Ibid. 35 Hen. VI, no. 15; *Comber, op. cit.* 150, 158.

⁵⁰ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 445-6; *Comber, op. cit.* 151; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* iii, 96; *Inq.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv), 652; (ibid. xxxiii), 8, 108.

⁵¹ In East Chiltoning parish, Streat Hundred.

⁵² *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 461; *Add. MS.* 5683, fol. 75.

⁵³ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix), 87, 152; (ibid. xx), 461; *Portman Deeds* (*Lewes*), nos. 145, 146.

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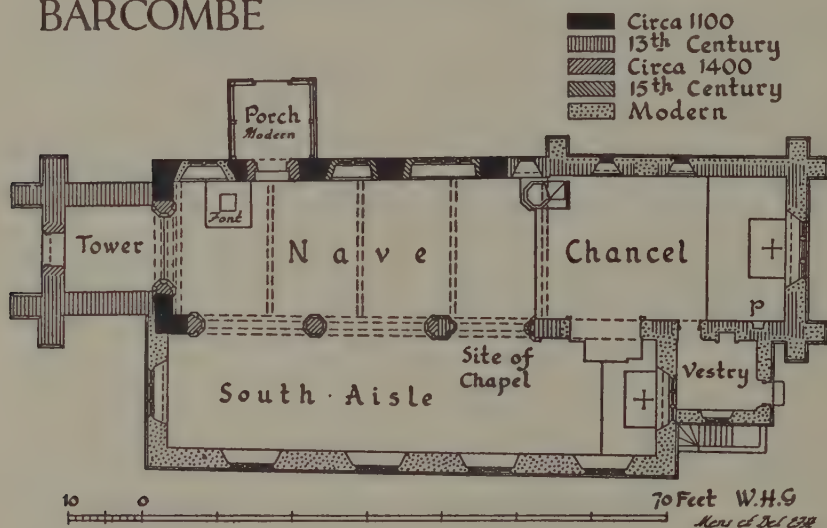
of John Smith, William, Ann, and Abigail Smith sold it to Thomas Medley of Conyborough in Barcombe.⁵⁴ This portion included the 'piece of arable land whereupon the ancient seat or mansion house called Camoys Court formerly stood'. It remained in the Medley family and descended with the main manor of Barcombe until, at least, 1835.⁵⁵

The other half, held in 1635 by Anthony Foster, son of Constance Lewknor,⁵⁶ became subdivided after his death among his six co-heirs, Morgan and Izan Jefferyes; David and Margaret Jefferyes; Robert Rochester; Anthony and Beatrice Browning; Walter and Helen Buckland; and Henry Watkinson.⁵⁷ By 1706 the whole moiety had come into the hands of John

manor from Thomas Richardson. Camoys Court passed to his youngest son Sir William Grantham, K.C., the well-known Judge, and at his death in 1911 came to his son Major William Wilson Grantham, V.D., K.C., J.P., the present owner.

In 1086 there were 3½ mills in Barcombe yielding 20s.⁶¹ At the beginning of the 16th century Thomas Erith and his wife Denise held a fulling mill ('now called a corn mill') of William, Lord Beaumont, as copyhold, together with 'a reasonable way to the same mill from Cokys Brygge'.⁶² In 1572 there were two watermills in Barcombe and at the beginning of the 17th century the 'little mill of Barcombe *alias* Bardolfes mill' pertained to the demesne of the manor.⁶³ The

PARISH CHURCH of ST. MARY BARCOMBE



Lucas of Barcombe,⁵⁸ who settled it on his three sons John, Francis, and Edward.⁵⁹ John Lucas, who died in 1769, left the estate to his youngest daughters Ann and Lucy, with remainder to the elder daughters Sarah and Mary.⁶⁰ Ann survived her sisters, and at her death, in 1809, bequeathed the property to her nephew William, son of Mary Lucas and William Shadwell, with the request that he should assume the name of Lucas before that of Shadwell. William Lucas Shadwell, in 1836, sold the 'Manor or Lordship or reputed Manor of Camoys Court' to Thomas Richardson, retaining for himself a portion including Camoys Court Farm. This portion Shadwell bequeathed at his death in 1844 to William Drew Stent, who took the name of Lucas Shadwell, but sold the property in the following year to George Grantham of Barcombe Place, who, in 1866, acquired the



GRANTHAM. Ermine a griffin gules holding in his claws a scutcheon or charged with a crosslet sable and two crosslets gules in the chief.

mills were a feature of the parish well known to artists until they were destroyed by fire in March 1939.

The church of *ST. MARY* is built of *CHURCH* flint with sandstone dressings; the roofs are tiled. The nave was built in c. 1100 and of this date the north wall remains. In the 13th century a west tower was added, a north lancet inserted in the nave, and the chancel rebuilt approximately the width of the nave; a south transeptal chapel was also added, of which the north arch remains. The south arcade dates from about 1400 and soon after larger windows were inserted in the north wall. The present south aisle and vestry were built 1879–80, when the church underwent extensive restoration. The south porch is also modern. Memorial slabs dating from the 17th century have been inserted in the external walls.

The chancel (31 ft. 9 in. × 19 ft. 2 in.) has a rebuilt or refaced east wall with angle buttresses and a three-light window. The north wall is refaced 13th-century work, and contains two much restored lancets; there is a chamfered plinth but no sign of the pointed doorway, shown between the lancets in Lambert's drawing of 1780.⁶⁴ The south wall had, according to Sharpe

⁵⁴ Portman Deeds (Lewes), no. 162.

⁵⁵ Ibid. no. 171; G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iii, 63; Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 238.

⁵⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 461; xix, 87.

⁵⁷ Ibid. xx, 462; Add. MS. 5684, fol.

154.

⁵⁸ In 1651 Francis Lucas of Lampport

bought the sixths of David Jefferyes, Browning, and Buckland: Add. MS. 39490, fol. 6.

⁵⁹ Portman Deeds (Lewes), no. 159; Add. MS. 5683, fol. 76.

⁶⁰ Information from here onwards from deeds examined by kind permission of

Major W. W. Grantham.

⁶¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i 442.

⁶² Ct. of Req. 2, 9/16.

⁶³ Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 14 Eliz.; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 233.

⁶⁴ Add. MS. 5677, fol. 24.

(1805 drawing),⁶⁵ a lancet and a 15th-century three-light window where is now the organ arch; but this wall was probably rebuilt in 1879–80, when the vestry was added; east of the modern doorway to the latter is a trefoil-headed piscina. There is no chancel arch, but the roofs of nave and chancel are at different levels.

The nave (50 ft. 4 in. × 17 ft. 8 in.) has no original features, but the north wall is 2 ft. 10 in. in thickness, with a batter. There is a slight deviation from the chancel line; and at the junction is a buttress.⁶⁶ Just west of it is a 13th-century lancet similar to those in the chancel but less restored. West again are two 15th-century windows, of which the east is of four cinquefoiled lights with hollow-chamfered jambs and mullions, while the label is chamfered, also the flat rear-arch; the other has two steeper cinquefoiled lights and a similar label and rear-arch. The north doorway is contemporary with the south arcade; it has an equilateral arch and a hood with rounded upper edge and returned ends; the outer order is hollow-chamfered, the inner wave-moulded; the rear-arch is chamfered segmental-pointed. West of this is a modern copy of the two-light window. The south arcade is of two dates. The east bay has a two-centred arch of two continuous chamfered orders, probably the opening to a 13th-century transeptal chapel, now replaced by the south aisle continuation; the two west bays have obtuse-pointed arches of two chamfered orders supported on an octagonal pier and responds. These date to c. 1400, having scroll-moulded abaci and astragals, and bases of roll and bell-shaped profile. The south aisle is modern, replacing a narrower aisle with dormer windows.⁶⁷ It is of four bays with pseudo-15th-century windows, and partly overlaps the chancel; east of it is a vestry of similar date. The north porch is wooden, of modern build; its predecessor was in bad repair in 1724.

The west tower (12 ft. 3 in. × 11 ft. 6 in.) was added in the early 13th century. It is of two stories,

undivided externally, and has at the west angles restored coupled buttresses of two stages and chamfered plinth. The walls have no plinth, but a slight batter. There is a shingled broach spire, with modern louvre openings. The obtuse-pointed tower arch was rebuilt with the south arcade, and has similar responds. The west doorway is similar to the north doorway; the hood is restored. Above is a modern cinquefoiled two-light window.

The roofs are modern throughout, but chestnut tie-beams dated 1682 existed in 1880. The floors are of modern tile and wood. There is one step to the chancel and one to the altar.

The font is of 14th-century date, having a square bowl with traceried sides, and square pedestal with attached shafts. In the 15th-century two-light window of the nave there is glass dated 1657, to the Grantham family, brought in 1889 from Goltho Church, Lincolnshire. A 15th-century image bracket occurs on the north wall of the nave. There are six bells, of which three date from the 17th century⁶⁸ and the others from 1912. The plate includes two cups (1710 and 1739 hall-marks), and two patens on a foot (1710 and 1899 hall-marks).⁶⁹ The registers date from 1580. The site of a large yew, blown down recently, is now occupied by the 1914–18 War Memorial.

There is a church of *ST. BARTHOLOMEW* at Spithurst in the north of the parish, built of flint in the style of the 13th century. It was erected in 1880.

The church of Barcombe with tithes *ADFOWSON* was granted to Lewes Priory by Ralph de Chesney and confirmed to them by William II de Warenne.⁷⁰ After the Dissolution the rectory and advowson were granted to Thomas Cromwell in 1538 with other possessions of the priory.⁷¹ After his fall the rectory was granted, in 1541, to Anne of Cleves,⁷² but the advowson appears to have remained with the Crown and the living is now in the gift of the Lord Chancellor.

HAMSEY

Hame (xi cent.); Hammes (xiii cent.); Hammys, Hammes Say (xiv and xv cent.).

The parish of Hamsey lies to the north of Lewes and covers an area of 2,908 acres. The land rises from a level of 100 ft. to 600 ft. in the west on the summit of Mount Harry. It falls to a level of 50 ft. in the centre and east, near the River Ouse. The soil is chalk, marl, and loam, and the subsoil blue clay. The population in 1931 was 557, but by the East Sussex Review Order of 1934 a portion of the detached part of St. John Without (Lewes) was added to the parish. There are hamlets at Offham, North End, 1 mile north of the village, and Hewen Street, 2 miles north. Cooksbridge, 1 mile north of Offham, lies partly in Hamsey and partly in Barcombe.

Hamsey village consists of a few houses and a farm on the lane to the old church. The De Say manor-house, next the church, has gone, but foundations were visible about 1780,¹ and the original contract exists for the building of the hall in 1321.² Hamsey Place

Farm is a late-16th-century house, much disguised. The old ceiling-beams show on both floors and there are some original battened doors with strap hinges. The farm buildings include a thatched barn, of 17th-century date or earlier, and some Caen stone is re-used in the stables.

Whitfields, north of it, now two cottages, is of L-shaped plan, with an outshot on the east; there are gables to the south, east, and north, the latter having a projecting porch dated 1584. The north elevation shows timber-framing at the gable end and porch, in square and oblong panels, some with later brick-nogging. There is quatrefoil patterning in the side walls of the porch, a band of chevrons below both gables, and some ornamental braces in the larger, which has a turned pendant at the apex. The porch is two stories high with a three-light window having filleted-roll mullion and transom; a similar window below probably replaces the original doorway, re-set in the west wall; the ground floor is built of flint with sandstone

⁶⁵ In the library of the Society of Antiquaries.

⁶⁶ Not shown in Lambert's drawing.

⁶⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxx, 53 (with drawing of interior to east).

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* xvi, 174, 198; lxxi, 144–5.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* lv, 168.

⁷⁰ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 17; cf. 21, 40.

⁷¹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74).

⁷² *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

¹ Horsfield quotes Mr. Elliot (1725–82), in Burrell MSS.: *Hist. of Sussex*, i, 335.

² Printed by Mr. W. H. Godfrey, F.R.I.B.A., with a reconstructed plan in *Suss. N. & Q.* iii, 133–6.

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and repaired brick quoins. The gable end flanking it has similar windows, with wooden mullions, several restored, but retaining some of the old casement fastenings. There is a late-16th-century chimney-stack serving both northern bays, with wide oak-lintelled fire-places. The west face shows flint with modern tile-hanging above; the original moulded Elizabethan doorway has been re-set centrally; it has a nail-studded door and the knocker may be original. The casement windows have diagonally set bars and scrolled fastenings. The northern bays have some stop-chamfered beams, and there is a good staircase with turned finial. The south cottage contains an original eight-panelled door and some re-used panelling.

Offham House has a symmetrical front of two stories with attics in the hipped slate roof; the walls are of well-knapped flint with dressings of plastered brick. The central projecting bay is crowned by a low pediment inclosing a square sundial dated 1676. If this is correct the house is notably advanced in style, being designed for sash windows. The dormers have been enlarged, if Grimm's drawing of c. 1780³ is correct.

Coombe Place stands in a park west of Offham Church. The east front dates from 1730, but documents in the possession of the Shiffner family show the gabled elevation of the house as built or altered by Richard Bridger (1620-98) who bought the estate in 1657. He is called 'of the Pillar Parlour', but the only pillars at Coombe are those in the present entrance hall, which appear of Georgian date. The 18th-century front has changed little since Grimm's drawing of c. 1780.⁴ It is of half-H-plan with semi-basement, two stories, and dormers above a moulded cornice and parapet. The walls are of well-knapped flint with stone quoins and window-dressings with key-stones. Most of the ground-floor sashes have been replaced. The central doorway, which has a triangular pediment above a moulded head, was superseded by the loggia on the south front, which retains its late-17th-century cornice. The principal rooms face east and show typical decoration of the first half of the 18th century. The dining-room has a heavily moulded cornice with dentils, a moulded dado, and separate cornices to the six-panelled doors. There are cornices to two bedrooms, that over the dining-room having also a richly ornamented fire-place with foliage and a fretted overmantel. Several of the rooms have plaster decoration on the ceilings. The library has a Georgian fire-place, cornice, and dado, but some late-17th-century detail remains in the north doorway and in the upper rooms, chiefly in the door panels. The main staircase is typical of the earlier 18th century, but the back stair belongs to the late 17th century, and some Elizabethan panels remain in the kitchen and over the drawing-room.

Cooksbridge Farm, north of Cooksbridge Station, has a tile-hung east front with casement windows and an 18th-century door-hood, but the north end shows some timber-framing and there is a 17th-century chimney-stack. Inside some original beams can be seen in the drawing-room. The staircase is Georgian.

Shelley's Folly, farther north, is built of brick in Flemish bond with vitrified headers, and there is a dentilled cornice, with a pediment on the north side. The house dates c. 1700, and, except for a later south extension, it is a complete example of the Wren period. An interesting feature is the survival of mullioned and transomed windows. The original north entrance has a broken curved pediment; the present entrance, to the east, has a curved hood, and the Shelley coat of arms in a blocked window above. There are bolection-moulded fire-places, set across the angles of the rooms, oblong panelling, and contemporary dog-leg staircases.

Pickett's Cottages, a late-16th-century house now divided into tenements, possesses a fine Elizabethan staircase with flat cut balusters and square newels with turned finials. The north wing preserves a jetty to the south, but has been prolonged eastwards in Georgian brick and flint. The main western block has brick-nogging in wide panels, a roof of Horsham slates, and a good early-17th-century chimney-stack with diagonal rib.

In 1086 Ralph de Chesney held Hamsey *MANORS* of William de Warenne as 14 hides, though it paid geld for 13 hides. Of this land Hugh and Ralph, possibly his sons, held respectively 1 hide and $\frac{1}{2}$ hide.⁵ The overlordship descended with the rape but since, in 1439, the 14 fees once held by William de Say were divided between John, Duke of Norfolk, and Edmund Lenthall,⁶ it is uncertain with which portion of the barony this manor was subsequently held.



SAY. Quarterly or and gules.

The Domesday 'Hame' formed the *caput* of the 14 fees that descended through the Chesney to the Say family, from whom the manor derived its name of *HAMSEY*.⁷ Thus, in 1242-3, William de Say was holding 14 knights' fees dependent on 'Hammes';⁸ in 1295 and 1322 Hamsey was held by the service of 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ knights' fees.⁹ In 1439 the 14 fees were said to be held in Hamsey, Barcombe, Streat, and Newtimber.¹⁰

Hamsey descended with Streat (q.v.),¹¹ passing from the Chesneys and the Says to William, Lord Clinton. Unlike Streat, however, it was not subjected to subinfeudation by William de Say c. 1296,¹² nor was it bequeathed in 1359 to a younger son.¹³ At that time it was held as 1 knight's fee.¹⁴

John, son of William, Lord Clinton, settled the manor on his wife Margaret St. Leger, and died in 1464.¹⁵ His heir, another John, in 1484 conveyed the manor, then called *HAMMES* and *HEYNSTRETE*, to Sir Henry Willoughby.¹⁶ This was perhaps a mortgage, as his son John, Lord Clinton, appealed to the Court of Chancery for possession of the deeds of the manor, of which he declared himself seised.¹⁷ He appears subsequently to have sold the manor to Edmund Dudley,¹⁸ who was holding it in 1503-4 and in December

³ Add. MS. 5677, fol. 23.

⁴ Ibid. fol. 22.

⁵ *V.C.H. Sussex*, i, 442-3. Before the Conquest 'Hame' had been held by Ulveva of King Edward for 25 hides. By 1086 the rest was in the rapes of the Count of Mortain and Earl Roger: *ibid.*

⁶ *Bk. of Fees*, ii, 690; *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Sussex Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 187, 188.

⁷ Cf. Round, 'Note on the Sussex Domesday', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlv, 140-1.

⁸ *Bk. of Fees*, ii, 690.

⁹ *Cal. Ing. p.m.* iii, 271; vi, 327.

¹⁰ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 192.

¹¹ In Streat Hundred.

¹² *Cal. Ing. p.m.* iii, 335; vi, 327.

¹³ Ibid. x, 517.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage; Cal. Ing. p.m.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 136; Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 66, no. 291; bdle. 195, no. 25.

¹⁶ Chapman, 'The Parochial History of Hamsey', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvii, 77. Heynstrete represents the modern hamlet, Hewen Street.

¹⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvii, 77-8.

¹⁸ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 131, no. 1.

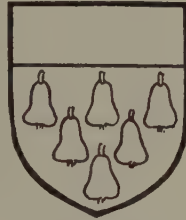
1507 made a grant of £20 a year from it to the Free School of Southover.¹⁹ His son Sir John, in 1526, conveyed the manor to Thomas West.²⁰

In July 1528 Edward Lewknor of Kingston Bowsey died holding the manor.²¹ His son Edward died in the Tower in 1556, having taken part in the rebellion against Mary. The manor then came into the hands of the Crown but was granted to his widow Dorothy for life, with reversion to her son Edward.²² In 1594 the manor was sold by his son Edward to Edward Alford,²³ and in 1634 Edward Alford died holding the manor, his heir John being aged 3.²⁴ John died c. 1648 and the manor was held by his widow Frances for life, with reversion to his brother Sir Edward.²⁵ Sir Edward Alford was a royalist and while he was compounding with parliament custody of the manor was granted to Henry Goring of Burton and Edward Badly. At the Restoration the manor returned to Sir Edward's son John Alford who held it in 1667.²⁶ In 1744 John Alford of Combe left the manor to his nephew John Wenham of Beckenham.²⁷ He died in 1768²⁸ and left it to his natural son John Wenham, then rector of Hamsey, after whose death his godson George Wenham Lewis succeeded to the property in 1773.²⁹ In 1776 it was bought from him by Thomas Whalley Partington of Offham, whose descendants continued to hold it.³⁰ Edward Partington died in 1883 and the manor passed to his only son the Rev. Thomas Partington, vicar of Netherfield in Battle.³¹ He died in 1888 and his widow Mrs. Jessie Partington then became lady of the manor.³² She held her last court in 1898. Lord Monk Bretton held his first court as lord of the manor in 1901.³³ He died in 1933 and the manor is at present vested in the trustees of his son, the third baron, who is a minor.³⁴

In 1237 William de Say granted fishing rights in Hamsey to Earl Warrenne³⁵ and in 1576–7 Henry, Earl of Derby, conveyed the right to free fishing there to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, along with his quarter of the barony.³⁶

The manor of COOMBE³⁷ in Hamsey was held in 1300 of Geoffrey de Say as half a fee by John de Radmelde, whose son William held it in 1322.³⁸ Nothing more is known of it until 1560–1 when it was conveyed by John Cooke and Richard Lee to William and John Comber. William and his wife Martha conveyed it in 1597 to John Pelland.³⁹ In 1605 John Pelland and Mary his wife released the manor to Tuppin Scrase⁴⁰ who held it as one knight's fee. He sold

it between 1628 and 1633 to James Rivers,⁴¹ who was holding it in 1638.⁴² In the reign of Charles II the property was owned by the Bridgers,⁴³ formerly of Ashurst in West Sussex, and in 1762 John Bridger,



ALFORD. *Gules six pears or and a chief or.*



BRIDGER. *Argent a chevron engrailed sable between three crabs gules.*



SHIFFNER. *Azure a bend sinister between two stars or and the end and stock of an anchor or coming out of the waves of the sea.*

his wife Mary, and Sir John Bridger were dealing by fine with the manor.⁴⁴ Sir John's daughter and heir Mary, in 1787, married George, afterwards Sir George, Shiffner to whom the estate passed.⁴⁵ He was holding the manor in 1835⁴⁶ and was succeeded in 1842 by his son Sir Henry Shiffner.⁴⁷ The estate has remained in this family, the present owner being Sir Henry Burrows Shiffner, 7th bart.⁴⁸

The parish church of ST. PETER CHURCH stands on an isolated hill on the east side of the parish: it is approached by a farm lane and is now used chiefly as a mortuary chapel. The walls are of flint, plastered, in the nave and chancel, flint and sandstone in the east wall and west tower; the dressings are of sandstone and ironstone. The roofs are tiled, except for Horsham slates on the eaves of the south walls and of the nave north wall.

The nave dates to the early 12th century, except for its west extremity. The chancel is contemporary, except for its east end. In the early 13th century a north transeptal chapel was added, of which the blocked arch remains. In the early 14th century many of the windows were inserted and about the same time the east wall was rebuilt. The west tower dates to the last years of the 14th century, and seems a prototype of the later tower at Newick; it was built separately, then joined up to the earlier nave by 6 ft. of walling. To the early 16th century date the south door (external arch), the priest's door in the north wall of the chancel, and the carved altar-tomb east of it.

The chancel (22 ft. 3 in. × 15 ft. 4 in.) has an early-14th-century east wall with diagonal buttresses of two chamfered stages. The east window has three ogee-trefoiled lights and flowing tracery in the head, a lobed ogee quatrefoil flanked by lobed trefoils: it has cham-

¹⁹ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 156–8, 196.

²⁰ *Cal. Drake Coll. D*, Suss. Arch. Trust, Lewes, p. 13; *Recov. R. Hil.* 17 Hen. VIII, ro. 353; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvii, 78–9.

²¹ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 159: cf. *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 196.

²² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvii, 79–81; *Pat. R.* 3 Eliz. pt. x. Cf. *Add. MS.* 39495, fol. 56.

²³ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 199; *Pat. R.* 36 Eliz. pt. xx; *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1591–4, p. 554. *Cal. Drake Coll. D*, Suss. Arch. Trust, Lewes, p. 105.

²⁴ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 14.

²⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvii, 82; cf. *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Horsham)*, 94.

²⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvii, 82; *Recov. R. Mich.* 19 Chas. II, ro. 56.

²⁷ *Add. MS.* 39495, fol. 54v, quoting will P.C.C. 207 Austis.

²⁸ *Add. MS.* 39495, fol. 54v.

²⁹ *Ibid.* fol. 57.

³⁰ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 199; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvii, 82–3.

³¹ *Add. MS.* 39495, fol. 58.

³² *Ibid.*

³³ *Ex inf.* Mr. Charles Gray of Messrs. Strutt & Parker, Lewes.

³⁴ *Ex inf.* Mr. J. I. Blencowe.

³⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 341.

³⁶ *Ibid.* (xix), 63.

³⁷ *Cumbe* (xiv cent.); *The Combe, Combe* (xvi–xvii cent.).

³⁸ *L.T.R. Memo. R.* 16 Edw. II.

³⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 109.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* Cf. *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 195.

⁴¹ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 230.

⁴² *Cal. of S. P. Dom.* 1638–9, pp. 52–3. Tuppin died in 1633 and his daughter Edith married George Bedford of London: *Comber, op. cit.* 238, 240.

⁴³ Mary, d. of James Rivers, had married (by 1694) John Bridger of Wellstreet in Westerham: *Comber, op. cit.* 231. They had a son Richard: *ibid.*

⁴⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 109.

⁴⁵ *Horsfield, Sussex* i, 220: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 109.

⁴⁶ *Horsfield, loc. cit.*

⁴⁷ *Lower, Hist. of Suss.* i, 206.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*; *Burke, Peerage, &c.* (1931).

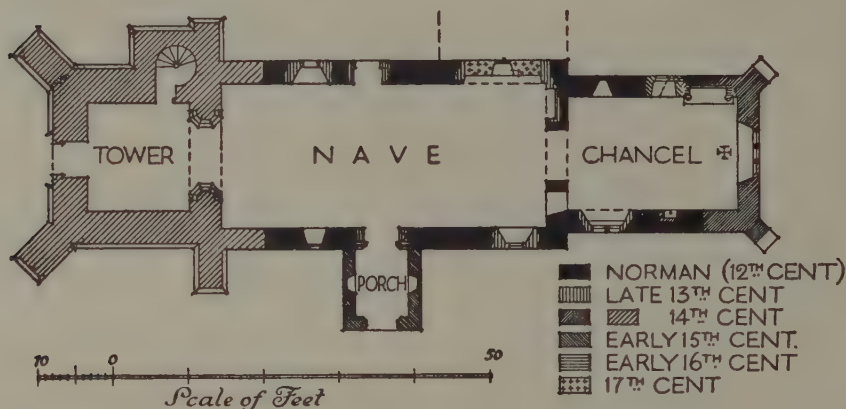
A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

fered mullions and jambs, an equilateral arch, and external hood, chamfered and undercut with returned ends; there is an obtuse-pointed rear-arch with chamfered head. The cross and coping appear to be original. The north wall is of 12th-century date except for 6 ft. at the east end bonded into the diagonal buttress. In it is a bricked-up priest's doorway of *c.* 1500; on the outside is the ogee-moulded east jamb with the eye-pierced spandrel of a four-centred arch. Internally there is a plain lintel, above part of which is a 14th-century window, blocked to the outside, with segmental-pointed rear-arch with key-stone. West of it is an original round-headed loop, 5 in. wide, splayed to a semi-circular rear-arch. The south wall has a similar junction between 12th- and early-14th-century masonry 5 ft. from the buttress. In the original portion is an inserted window dating *c.* 1300: of two trefoiled lights

has a rear-arch similar to that of the north doorway, but the external arch is of 16th-century four-centred type with ogee-moulded jambs and hollow-chamfered arch; the square framing is simply chamfered, and there are shields in the spandrels, the west one incised with T. The south door is contemporary, with four-centred head. West of it is a small 12th-century window, 6 in. wide, with round head and a semicircular rear-arch.

The south porch (9 ft. \times 7 ft.) was restored in the early 16th century, to which period belong its small oblong chamfered side windows; the south arch seems of 15th-century date, and is equilateral, with head and jambs widely chamfered on both faces: there is no rebate, but a modern door has been added. In the east wall is a round-headed stoup with octagonal bowl, now cut back flush with the wall-face.

The PARISH CHVRCH of ST PETER-HAMSEY



with a kite-shaped opening above, obtuse-pointed head, and chamfered mullion; there is a segmental-pointed rear-arch, and narrow sill, the recess being carried to floor level. Farther east is a chamfered trefoil-headed piscina of the same date with an equilateral outer arch and square drain. The chancel arch is of early-12th-century character, a plain semicircular arch, cut straight through the wall and having projecting imposts with chamfered under-edge. South of it is a wide squint, cut obliquely eastwards, under which is a 16th-century aumbrey, rebated for two doors on the chancel face, and with a small square opening to west. North of the arch is a 13th-century altar recess. Near it, on the north wall of the nave (43 ft. 4 in. (north) and 44 ft. 4 in. (south) \times 20 ft. 3 in.) is a blocked early-13th-century two-centred arch, with ridged roll, deeply undercut, on the jambs. This presumably led into a transeptal chapel. In the blocking is a round-headed window of perhaps 16th-century date, splayed to a semicircular rear-arch, and under it is a small square piscina. The original north doorway is blocked externally but shows projecting imposts with chamfered under-edge; its segmental arch was possibly altered *c.* 1300. West of it is a pointed-trefoil-headed light splayed to a segmental-pointed rear-arch: this also belongs to the early 14th century. The south wall has an inserted easternmost window similar to that in the north wall; under it is an equilateral chamfered piscina with a square drain having bird's-foot grooving. The south doorway

The west tower (15 ft. \times 13 ft. 4 in.) dates to the last years of the 14th century. It is of three stories and two external stages divided by a chamfered string-course, with hollowed under-side, and finished with a hollow-chamfered plinth and cornice: the coped crenellated parapet was added in the early 16th century and conceals a pyramidal roof. There are diagonal buttresses of three offsets at the western angles, and a similar buttress, projecting south, at the south-east corner. Each wall has a central gargoyle head at cornice level. A square stair-turret, narrowed in the upper stage, projects at the north-east corner with a slight buttress to the north; the west doorway has an equilateral arch of two hollow-chamfered orders, and hood with returned ends: there is a flat chamfered rear arch and bar holes. The west window was inserted early in the 15th century. It has three cinquefoiled lights with perpendicular trefoil-headed panels above, an obtuse-pointed arch, and mutilated chamfered undercut hood. The tower arch is lofty and obtuse-pointed, of two hollow-chamfered orders, with a chamfered plinth in two stages: it has polygonal moulded responds. A doorway in the north wall gives access to the newel stair, lit to the north by three square-headed loops, near the topmost of which is a segmental-pointed lampstand, roughly semicircular in plan. The first floor has gone, but is marked by a 9 in. offset. In the north wall at this level, a doorway gives access from the newel stair, and west of it is a blocked oblong light



HAMSEY CHURCH: THE TOWER



HAMSEY CHURCH: INTERIOR, THE CHANCEL



NEWICK CHURCH: THE TOWER

with segmental-pointed rear-arch. A similar blocked window occurs centrally in the south wall. In the bell stage there is further access to the stair, and in each wall above the string is a late-14th-century window of two ogee trefoiled lights in a square framing; these are blocked with modern brick except on the west; there are wide inner arches, two-centred on north and south, segmental-pointed to east and west.⁴⁹

The roofs date from the early 14th century and are of trussed rafter type with king-post trusses, one in the chancel and three in the nave; the king-posts have diagonal struts from the tie-beam. The late-14th-century west part of the nave has an extension.⁵⁰ The porch roof is of c. 1500, with three cambered ties and two king-posts. The bell-timbering is later. The floors are modern, of brick and tiles. There is a platform to the altar.

The font is of limestone, probably from East Anglia, of 15th-century date, stepped, with trefoil tracery on the octagonal bowl and stem. There are four 18th-century hatchments⁵¹ in the nave, of the Bridger family; and there are some 16th-century pews with roll tops repaired. Fragments of a painted 17th-century royal arms remain on the south wall of the nave east of the doorway, also a framed royal arms of George III over the chancel arch.

A tomb, used as an Easter Sepulchre, on the north wall of the chancel has been identified by R. Garraway Rice, F.S.A., with one ordered to be made by the will of Edward Markewyk, d. 1538.⁵² It has a flat four-centred arch supported on polygonal columns with moulded capitals, and having vine carvings in the spandrels, panelled soffit, and double-trefoil traceried jambs. The columns are continued with secondary capitals to support a canopy with moulded cornice, quatrefoils with Tudor flower beneath, and the same Tudor flower in the cornice. The chest has a projecting top with keel and hollow chamfers, and below are traceried quatrefoils with blank shields separated by traceried panels, and a moulded base.⁵³

The two bells were made in 1682 by William Hull of South Malling.⁵⁴

The plate includes a cup, flagon, and alms-dish—all with 1801 inscription, and a paten.⁵⁵

The registers date from 1583.

The church of *ST. PETER* in Offham was built in 1859 from the designs of Ewan Christian. It is of flint and sandstone, in the 13th-century style, and has a tower with spire.

The advowson of the rectory of *ADVOWSON* Hamsey appears always to have descended with the manor⁵⁶ and in 1464 was settled by John, Lord Clinton and Say, on his wife Margaret St. Leger.⁵⁷ In 1505 and 1508 it was held by Edmund Dudley, but in 1521 Lady Ann Roos was the patron.⁵⁸ In 1526 Thomas West received it from John Dudley.⁵⁹ From 1529 it descended with the manor until 1777, when the advowson was sold by George Wenham Lewis to Sir John Bridger of Coombe Place, lord of the manor of Coombe, with which it has since descended.⁶⁰

A chapel of ease was attached to the manor of Coombe in the 17th century. This was already in disrepair when Tuppin Scrase bought it. Under James Rivers, his successor in the manor, the chapel was allowed 'to run to ruin' and Edith Bedford, Scrase's daughter, petitioned Archbishop Laud to be allowed to recover the bell that she had presented so that she might bestow it on some other chapel.⁶¹ This was perhaps identical with the chapel of Offham which was suppressed with other chantries in 1548.⁶² This 'decayed chapel in Wogham' was owned by three successive John Shurleys, who died respectively in 1616, 1631, and 1637, the last of them leaving his sister Frances as his heir.⁶³

Before 1239 the prior of Lewes took all the tithes of corn from the ancient demesne of Richard de Combe in Hamsey except one cart-load which the rector of Hamsey took. In that year it was agreed that the prior should take the whole tithe and pay the rector 3s. for the cart-load.⁶⁴ The rectory was valued at £13 6s. 8d. in 1291,⁶⁵ which included 3 virgates of arable and 10 acres of meadow glebe.⁶⁶ In 1535 the value was £16 12s. 8d.⁶⁷

NEWICK

Niwica (xi cent.); Niewica (xii cent.); Newik (xiii cent.); Newyke (xv cent.).

The parish of Newick, to the north of Lewes, is bounded on the east by the River Ouse, where the land lies at a level of 50 ft. It rises to 100 ft. in the south and in the west it reaches the height of 200 ft. for a short distance by Newick Rough. The parish covers an area of 1,930 acres. The soil is light and the subsoil clay and sand-rock. A large amount of land is used for fruit growing and market gardens. Under the East Sussex Review Order of 1934 a detached part of the parish

was transferred to Barcombe while a detached part of Barcombe was added to Newick. The population of the parish in 1931 was 1,045. There is a Baptist chapel and a Mission Hall.

The houses are situated round a green and along roads branching west to Chailey and south to Barcombe.

Bretts lies on the east side of the green, on the road to Tunbridge Wells. Though externally modernized,¹ the original late-16th-century house is visible internally, containing wide fire-places and some exposed ceiling beams. The drawing-room has in the south wall a four-

⁴⁹ These notes are chiefly based on the discoveries made by W. H. Godfrey, F.R.I.B.A., in 1928-9 when the church was restored: *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 52-5, 126, 151-2.

⁵⁰ W. E. Meads: articles in *Sussex Express*, 13 and 20 May, 1932.

⁵¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxi, 145.

⁵² *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 52-5, with elevation by E. F. Harvey.

⁵³ Later monuments and churchyard inscriptions in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvii, 71; lxxi, 145. For Lambert's drawing of c. 1780

see Add. MS. 5677, fols. 24 (church), 25 (tomb). There is a 1797 drawing by Sharpe in the library of the Society of Antiquaries, and one of 1851 by Nibbs (*Churches of Sussex*).

⁵⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 211.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* liv, 227.

⁵⁶ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* i, 813. Cf. *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.*), ii, 47.

⁵⁷ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 66, no. 291.

⁵⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvii, 100; 78-9.

⁵⁹ *Recov. R. Hil.* 17 Hen. VIII, ro. 353.

⁶⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvii, 82, 100; *Inst.*

Bks. (P.R.O.); Lower, *Hist. of Suss.* i, 206; Add. MS. 39495, fol. 56v.

⁶¹ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1638-9, p. 52.

⁶² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxvi, 26, 98; *Mins. Accts.* (P.R.O.) Edw. VI, 453.

⁶³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccclv, 63;

ccclxii, 72; ccclxxxvi, 147.

⁶⁴ *Cat. Anc. D.* iv, A. 8010.

⁶⁵ *Tax. Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), 136.

⁶⁶ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 380.

⁶⁷ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 334.

¹ Original posts show on the first floor in the western gable.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

light 17th-century casement with original catches, and the office west of it has a contemporary three-light, with diagonal bars, in the west wall. The staircase is original, and is supported on a great chamfered post, two stories in height; the hand-rail has been renewed, but the newel finial is of Elizabethan type. The timber framing shows on the first floor, with great cambered tie-beams and struts.

Brett's Cottage, on the opposite side of the road, was the toll-house and contains a 17th-century fire-place, now blocked.

The Bull Inn, on the south-west side of the green, has two fine chimney-stacks of c. 1600, the north containing two shafts with moulded base and fillet, set squarely on a lofty chamfered plinth. The interior shows a wide lintelled fire-place, and original beams; a timber-framed wall on the west was once external, and preserves a window-frame of two lights with diagonally set bars.

East of the village, near the river, is Gold Bridge, an L-shaped house, modernized but retaining its sandstone foundations and some timber-framing on the north side.

'The Manor House', until recently called Church Farm, is a timber-framed building of 1599, that date with the initials DOM being on a panel now over the entrance, but modified in the late 17th century by the transformation of the roof to the hipped type, and the refacement of the south front in brick with an added square projection. The main building is almost a square, of four bays. Each double-bayed block contains a rebuilt central chimney with wide fire-places, and the south range may be slightly later than the north. The west front shows timber-framing in wide panels over a brick base, and four-light casements of the 17th century, with diagonally set bars in some and the original fastenings; the dormers are later. The north front is similar, and has an original door (possibly re-set) with square sunk panels and small-moulded styles and rails and some original windows. The east front has two timber-framed gables, but the north has now a tiled hip, and there is a separate tiled roof to the semi-hexagonal bay. This contains a five-light mullioned and transomed window on each floor. The southern projection varies slightly, but the tulip pendant at the gable-end is of Elizabethan type. It has later tile-hanging in the gable, which rests on an oriel and coved panels. Brackets and further coving support the oriel, but modern casements have been inserted in the latter and in the ground floor, which has late-17th-century brick. The ground-floor fire-places have restored four-centred heads in wood, and there is Elizabethan panelling in the hall and drawing-room; stop-chamfered ceiling beams are visible on both floors, and the wide elm baulks have been retained. The front staircase has been copied from the first-floor balustrade of the original wooden newel-stair behind. There is a fine lead cistern dated 1764 in the garden.

The Old Rectory, near by, is a substantial brick house of the second half of the 18th century, and contains good fire-places, staircase, and pillared entrance hall.

Fonthill lies farther south on the east side of the road to Barcombe. It is an early-16th-century house of three bays with close-studded timber-framing, brick-filled in part, on a sandstone base. The 17th-century central chimney-stack serves wide oak-lintelled fire-

places to a two-bayed hall and parlour south of it. There is a central beam down the house from north to south, carrying the joists. Some of the windows retain their filleted-roll mullions and old fastenings, and a blocked window on the north has diagonally set bars. The ends have hipped gables, the north showing timber-framing above a stone base. The out-shot on the east is contemporary, with some wattle-and-daub panels. The staircase retains an Elizabethan newel with turned finial. There is a collar-beamed roof.

Beechlands lies west of Fonthill, in a fine park, of which the Spanish chestnuts are celebrated. The older parts of the house may be Tudor work, much disguised by later alterations. Horsfield² gives a print of the house before the modern wings were added. Near the drive entrance a road strikes south to Lewes. On the east side is Norris's, a farmhouse now being re-conditioned. An early-17th-century chimney-stack serves wide oak-lintelled fire-places; there are mullioned windows, an Elizabethan finial to the stair, and panelling with pilasters in one room. The house has been refaced with Georgian brick, with tile-hanging.

Newick Park, now the residence of the Dowager Viscountess Brentford, and previously owned by the Sclaters and Vernons of Cheshire, combines work of several periods. The south-west angle, although much disguised, seems to date from the second half of the 16th century,³ and has double fire-places, now modernized, flanked by passages or cupboards on the west, the first-floor passage retaining Elizabethan panelling. In this part, too, is a curious shaft, between the fire-place and passage, extending from top to bottom of the house, but now blocked. The early house seems to have occupied all the west side, and was probably three bays in length; a first-floor room at the north-west angle has a moulded four-centred fire-place and a stop-chamfered ceiling-beam. Elsewhere, there is re-set material of Elizabethan date; a fire-place lintel carved with 'barbarities' can be seen in the entrance hall, and there are three arcaded panels with fluted pilasters above the billiard-room fire-place. The kitchen and offices used to be in what are now the cellars; and the date 1563 or 1568 is said to remain on one of the cellar walls. The south front is of early-18th-century type with five bays divided by Doric pilasters; the east front has semicircular projecting bays at each end. The exterior has been only slightly altered since Lambert's drawing was made in 1783.⁴ A fine staircase with iron balustrade, which went straight up from the front door, has recently been moved, and a large window projection built out of the library on the west side. There are several iron-firebacks, probably of the late 17th century; some have the Three Feathers, others a cavalier with the letters C.R. Sir Elijah Impey, chief justice of Bengal and associate of Warren Hastings, was tenant of the Park from 1794 till his death in 1809.

Mackerells stands farther down the Barcombe road, on the south side. It is a timber-framed house of rectangular plan, with gables to east, west, and north, and is apparently of 16th-century date, with wide panels, brick-filled, above a brick ground story. The brick porch probably dates from the 17th century, and there are modern projections on the east. There are a central chimney-stack, wide fire-places, and exposed ceiling-beams.

Vuggles Farm was in a detached portion of the parish,

² *History of Sussex* (1835), i, opposite p. 223.

³ A mullioned window lately found here on the second floor is the only external

feature of this date.

⁴ Add. MS. 5677, fol. 54.

now transferred to Barcombe. The house was partially destroyed by fire, and what remains is an L-shaped building chiefly in 17th-century brick. A room to the north is lined with oblong panelling with bolection mouldings, dado, and cornice of the late 17th century; it has a fine doorway with broken pediment.

NEWICK is not mentioned in the *MANORS* Domesday Survey but may at that date have been included in Allington, then in Barcombe Hundred. William de Warenne II was holding land in Newick in about 1095, at which date he gave two acres of meadow there to the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes.⁵ The overlordship of the several manors here descended with the rape, but to which group of knights' fees they pertained does not appear. The manor of 'Benfilde in Newick' was still held of the barony of Lewes at the beginning of the 17th century,⁶ but in 1602 the other manor was held by George Goring of the Lord Bergavenny as of his manor of Ditchling.⁷

In 1219 half a manor of Newick was conveyed to Stephen, prior of Lewes, by Peter son of Reimer of Newick.⁸ The prior was holding land in Newick in 1316⁹ and by 1450 seems to have held a whole manor there.¹⁰ On the dissolution of the monastery, all its lands in Newick were given to Thomas Cromwell.¹¹ The subsequent history of these lands is, however, uncertain. They may conceivably have constituted the 'manor' of Newick conveyed, like Ditchling Garden¹² (q.v.) in 1621, by Thomas Eversfield to Sir Edward Sackville,¹³ members of whose family are subsequently found holding the advowson.

Meanwhile in 1256 Alice, widow of Hugh de Plaiz, had unsuccessfully demanded one-third of a manor of Newick, as part of her dower, from her step-son Richard de Plaiz.¹⁴ Nothing further is heard of this 'manor', but there are some grounds¹⁵ for assuming a connexion between it and the manor conveyed to John Page by Henry Chantler in 1560,¹⁶ and held in 1570 by George and Stephen Board.¹⁷ In 1604 Sir Stephen Board of Cuckfield was lord of this manor,¹⁸ which at his death in 1630 was described as the manor of Newick or Benfield.¹⁹ It appears under the name of 'Benfilde in Newicke' in the *Book of John Rowe*.²⁰ Stephen's son John, in 1648, bequeathed the manor to his son William,²¹ who appeared in various transactions con-



BOARD. Party fessewise gules and azure a scutcheon in an orle of martlets argent.

cerning the property, described as the manor of Newick and Chailey (q.v.). In 1683 he and his wife levied a fine with Timothy Burrell on the intended marriage of William Board the younger with Mary Burrell, and in 1695 he suffered a recovery of the manor.²² In 1716 John Longley of St. Mary le Savoy, London, conveyed it to Edward Relfe,²³ who held his last court there in 1728.²⁴ His son John Relfe sold the manor in 1734 to Christopher, Lord Mansell, who died unmarried in 1744, holding the manor and also Newick Place which he had inherited from his maternal grandfather Francis Millington.²⁵ Christopher was succeeded by his brother Bussy, Lord Mansell, who died in 1750. His only child, Louisa Barbara Mansell, married George Venables, Baron Vernon of Kinderton, and died in 1786,²⁶ leaving her Sussex estate by will to the Dowager Lady Fortescue, with remainder to her second son. In 1791 Lord Vernon was still holding the manor,²⁷ but in 1812 the Hon. Matthew Fortescue and his wife Henrietta Ann were holding it.²⁸ In September of the same year Fortescue conveyed it to James Powell the younger.²⁹ The manor, with its seat Newick Park, was acquired by James Henry Sclater³⁰ whose son died in 1897.³¹ His eldest son survived but died in the same year (1897) and the manor passed to the second son, the late Rev. Francis Saunderson Sclater, who sold Newick Park in 1925 to Sir William Joynson-Hicks, later Viscount Brentford, but retained the greater part of the land of the estate³² together with the manorial rights, which are now vested in his son Mr. G. E. Sclater.³³ Newick Park is now the seat of Grace, Dowager Viscountess Brentford.

A second manor in *NEWICK* was held in 1571 by Gregory Fiennes, Lord Dacre, and his wife Anne.³⁴ In 1582 it was conveyed by them, along with other manors, including Streat and Westmeston (q.v.) to George Goring of Lewes,³⁵ who died in 1602 holding the manor and farm there of Lord Bergavenny, as of his manor of Ditchling, his son George Goring being his heir³⁶ and the manor then appears to have followed the descent of Streat (q.v.). Walter Dobell was holding courts there from 1609³⁷ and the manor came eventually into the hands of Thomas Lane, son of Mary Dobell, on the death of his mother in 1798.³⁸ The present lord of the manor is Mr. W. R. FitzHugh.³⁹

The parish church of *ST. MARY* stands *CHURCH* in a lane south of the village. The walls are of sandstone and ironstone, coursed rubble and ashlar; the roofs are tiled. The nave dates from about 1100, having early-14th-century insertions, but it was lengthened east in the drastic restoration of 1886-7, when the early-14th-century chancel was

⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii, 14, 21.

⁶ *Ibid.* xxxiv, 138.

⁷ *Ibid.* xxxiii, 206.

⁸ *Ibid.* ii, 155.

⁹ *Feud. Aids*, v, 136-7.

¹⁰ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 223.

¹¹ Pat. R. 29 Hen. VIII, pt. ii; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74).

¹² In *Streat Hundred*.

¹³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 129.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* vii, 607.

¹⁵ The Plaiz held also in Chailey (q.v.) and the Board manor appears as 'Newick and Chailey', *vide infra*.

¹⁶ *Recov. R. East. 2 Eliz. ro. 725; Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 317.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 423; *Add. MS.* 39499, fol. 30.

¹⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xli, 213.

²⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 138.

²¹ *Add. MS.* 39499, fols. 30, 38; cf. *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 20-1.

²² *Recov. R. Trin. 35 Chas. II, ro. 156.*

²³ *Add. MS.* 39499, fol. 30; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 317-18.

²⁴ *Add. MS.* 39472, fol. 160v.

²⁵ *Add. MS.* 39499, fol. 43; *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), viii, 385.

²⁶ *Ibid.* viii, 387 and n. Her only surviving daughter died unmarried the same year.

²⁷ Horsfield, *Hist. of Suss.* i, 224. He died in 1813; *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), viii, 28.

²⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 462.

²⁹ *Add. MS.* 39469, fol. 224-6; cf. *ibid.* 39472, fol. 160v. Powell was 'lord' (perhaps actually tenant) of the manor in

1810: *Gamekeepers' Deputations*, Lewes. ³⁰ Burke, *Landed Gentry* (1937); Horsfield, *Hist. of Suss.* i, 224; Lower, *Hist. of Suss.* ii, 59; cf. *Add. MS.* 39472, fol. 160v.

³¹ Kelly, *Handbook*, 1924.

³² Burke, *op. cit.*

³³ *Ex inf.* Mr. G. F. Sclater.

³⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 83.

³⁵ *Ibid.* 235; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 64.

In 1570 it was said that the tenants of the manor of Newick served and were sworn in the court of Westmeston: *Add. MS.* 39499, fol. 30.

³⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 482; xxxiii, 206.

³⁷ *Add. MS.* 39499, fol. 31.

³⁸ See below, pp. 114-15.

³⁹ *Ex inf.* Mr. W. R. FitzHugh (1937).

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

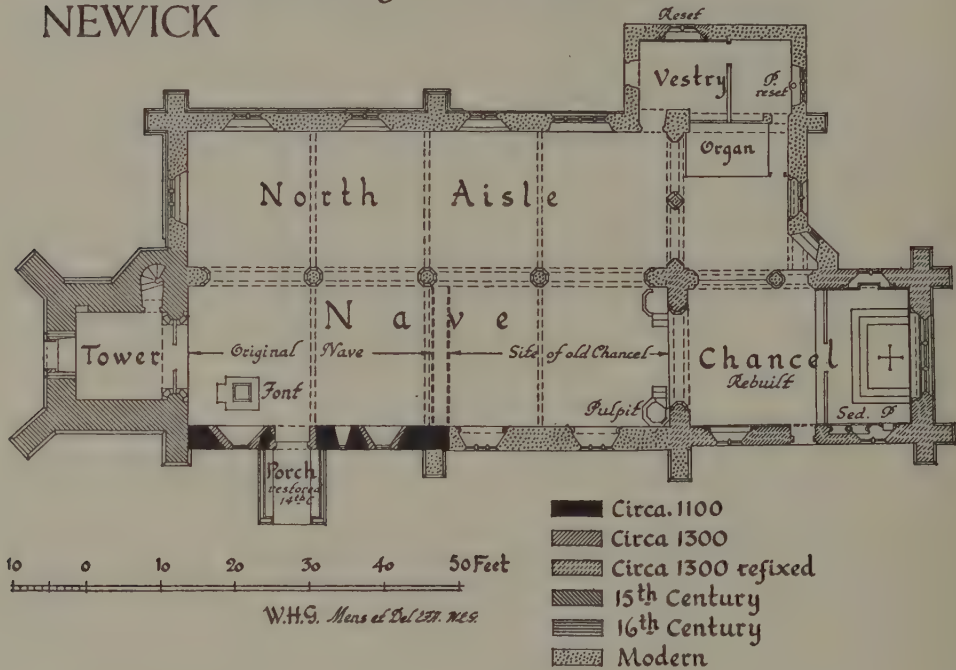
taken down and rebuilt farther east.⁴⁰ The west tower was built in the 15th century, and bears a striking resemblance to the earlier tower at Hamsey. The north aisle is modern, as are the organ chamber and vestries.

The chancel (29 ft. 11 in. \times 18 ft. 6 in.) dates from the early 14th century, rebuilt when the church was lengthened. The east wall has modern masonry, except for the old chamfered plinth; there are right-angled buttresses of two stages with chamfered plinth. The east window has three modern lights and tracery, but the original hoods and arches are retained. These are obtuse-pointed, the hood scroll-moulded with square

roll-and-fillet and hollow-chamfered jambs. The sedilia, mentioned by Hussey (1852) as 'rich', have two trefoil-headed gabled openings, each with a moulded arch, divided by a central shaft of quatrefoil plan with moulded abacus. The equilateral chancel arch was re-built in the position of the old east wall; it has a scroll-moulded hood, the outer order is wave-moulded, the inner has a wide roll and fillet, the polygonal roll bases are probably original but the capitals are restored.

The nave (64 ft. 9 in. \times 18 ft. 10 in.) may be described in two parts, the original 12th-century work

PARISH CHURCH of ST. MARY NEWICK



tongue-like stops, the outer arch hollow-chamfered. The splayed sill and scroll-moulded string-course are also original; the rear-arch has roll-and-fillet mouldings, a similar hood, and jamb-shafts with bell capitals, ogee-scroll abacus and astragal, and double-roll bases. Above is a modern oblong light. The north wall has a late-13th-century window, reset; it has two pointed trefoil lights with a pointed cinquefoil inclosed by an equilateral scroll-moulded hood, again with tongue-like stops; the rear-arch has roll-and-fillet mouldings and a similar hood; the internal jamb shafts have ogee-scroll abaci and astragal, roll and fillet in the bell, and double-roll bases.

The second north window has been reset in the vestry, together with moulded string-course and piscina drain, and there is some re-used material in a trefoil window placed in the angle between the vestry and chancel. The south wall is of re-used masonry; in it are two windows similar to that in the north wall, with slight variations in the capitals. Between them is a doorway, now central, of which the hood alone seems original. There is a restored trefoil-headed piscina with

to west (c. 31 ft.) and the modern elongation to east (c. 33 ft.). The north arcade of four bays extends the full length, and was built in 1886, supplanting an earlier north aisle, c. 1836, which extended half the length, and replaced a 12th-century wall, which had, according to Hussey, two original windows and a doorway. Of the south wall, the extension is limited by two modern buttresses, and includes two modern three-light windows. The original walling, to west, is built in coursed rubble of sandstone and ironstone, and one contemporary window remains, c. 9 in. in width, with a round head cut in a single stone, and splayed to a semicircular rear-arch. East of this is an early-14th-century insertion, a trefoil-headed window, splayed to a segmental-pointed rear-arch; there is another with wider rear-arch west of the contemporary south doorway. The latter has an equilateral arch of two orders, the outer hollow-chamfered, the inner wave moulded, and an ogee-scroll moulded hood with returned ends; the rear-arch is chamfered and segmental-pointed. The wall-plate is probably of 14th-century date.

The south porch has a modern base and some re-

⁴⁰ W. E. Meads, articles in *Sussex Express*, 22 and 29 June 1934. There are views of the church by Lambert (c. 1783): Add. MS. 5676, fol. 97; and by Sharpe (1805).

used 14th-century timbers. The outer opening has a wooden equilateral arch with ogee-headed openings in the jambs and supporting a chamfered tie and king-post. There are remains of a chain for preventing the entrance of cattle.

The west tower (12 ft. 2 in. × 11 ft. 9 in.) is of early-15th-century date, and of two stages with an embattled parapet, probably added in the early 16th century, above a cornice of chamfered section with hollowed and bead-moulded underside; there is a pyramidal cap. The polygonal stair-turret at the north-east angle is set back for the cornice to pass over it. The chamfered string-course, however, dividing the stages, is confined to the actual wall faces, and is interrupted at the western angles by diagonal buttresses; the hollow-chamfered plinth is common to the whole tower. A similar buttress projects south at the south-east angle. The tower arch is lofty and equilateral in form; it has a chamfered hood and one widely chamfered order supported on restored polygonal responds with scroll and bead-moulded abaci; the bases are bell-shaped, topped by a double chamfered annulet, and rest on a square plinth. The doorway to the turret stair has an equilateral arch with double-ogee moulded jambs. Three oblong windows light the newel stair. The turret cresting has similar hipped cresting to the tower crenellations. The early-16th-century west door has a four-centred arch in a square frame, and a hood-mould, moulded like the cornice and terminated by large flatly carved head-stops; there are rosettes in the spandrels, and the jambs have cavetto and double-bowtell mouldings on the chamfer plane. Above is a window inserted at the same time; it is of three cinquefoiled lights, restored, with trefoil-panelled tracery in an equilateral head, with hood and jambs similar to those of the doorway. The bell-chamber has, in each wall, a window of two chamfered equilateral lights, with four-centred rear-arches, the east one being slightly lower. Below this on the north and east walls is a small oblong chamfered window, and a similar opening on the south wall, west of the modern clock-face, which occurs centrally on the west wall.

The porch has a 14th-century king-post roof re-used. Otherwise the roofs are modern.

The font has a 14th-century square bowl with ogee tracery on the sides, set on a 12th-century cylindrical pedestal with plain attached shafts; the base is modern.

There is a 14th-century medallion in the supra-light of the west window on the chancel south wall, and another, probably contemporary, in the window east of it; both show the Agnus Dei, and grisaille in the cinquefoils. The modern glass is chiefly of Whitefriars manufacture. In the nave is a 1914-18 War Memorial. The pulpit is of early-17th-century date, with sounding-board.

Of the six bells one is of 1627, by Roger Tapsel; one of 1635 by Brian Eldridge; and one of 1828;⁴¹ the others are modern.

The plate includes a cup, probably 1568; patens (1726 and 1873 hall-marks); a flagon (1897 hall mark); a spoon;⁴² and a pewter alms-dish.

The registers date from 1558.

The advowson was granted to the *ADVOWSON* priory of St. Pancras at Lewes by general charter of William, second Earl Warenne, about 1095.⁴³ In 1537 it was transferred to the Crown,⁴⁴ and in 1538 granted to Thomas Cromwell.⁴⁵ Queen Elizabeth presented to the rectory in 1559 and 1567,⁴⁶ but in 1624 Richard, Earl of Dorset, was patron,⁴⁷ and the advowson apparently still belonged to the earls as late as 1710.⁴⁸ Francis Millington of Newick Place, however, presented in 1672 and 1690,⁴⁹ and from 1710 onwards the advowson descended with the Mansell manor.⁵⁰ In 1812 it was conveyed by Matthew Fortescue to James Powell, the younger, of Newick Park,⁵¹ who in 1819 sold the advowson to his brother Thomas Baden Powell for £2,500. He left it in 1868 to his son the Rev. William Powell. In 1884 William bequeathed the rectory and advowson to his trustees.⁵² In 1927 the trustees of the will of the Reverend William Powell sold the advowson to Sir William Joynson-Hicks, who transferred it to the National Church League.⁵³

In 1771 Lady Louisa Barbara Vernon *CHARITY* founded and endowed with a rent charge of £50 a school for the education and clothing of twelve poor girls. The establishment continued until 1903, when the school became part of the County Council system of elementary education. The building ceased to be used as a school in 1926, but the endowment was reorganized under a scheme made by the Chancery Division on 28 July 1926, and now provides scholarships to enable Newick girls to attend the Lewes Secondary School for Girls.⁵⁴

⁴¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 219.

⁴² *Ibid.* lv, 174.

⁴³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii, 21.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* xx, 427.

⁴⁵ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1),

g. 384 (74).

⁴⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xii, 258.

⁴⁷ Horsfield, *Hist. of Suss.* i, 224.

⁴⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 272-3.

⁴⁹ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*; Add. MS. 39341, fol. 23.

⁵¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 462; Add. MS. 39469, fols. 224-6.

⁵² *Ibid.* ⁵³ *Ex inf.* F. Bentham Stevens.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*

THE HUNDRED OF STREAT

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

CHAILEY
EAST CHILTINGTON

DITCHLING
PLUMPTON
WIVELSFIELD

STREAT
WESTMESTON

THIS hundred at the time of the Domesday Survey consisted of Streat, Westmeston, Plumpton, East Chiltington, Wootton, and Warningore (now in East Chiltington), and a detached portion of the manor of Beeding (in Burbeach Hundred¹). Ditchling was then recorded, probably in error, under Swanborough Hundred.² In the Subsidy Roll of 1296 the hundred is divided into three 'vills', Streat, 'Lotfield', and Lindfield and Burleigh,³ and an examination of the names of tenants recorded shows that the vill of Streat included also Ditchling, Westmeston, East Chiltington, and Plumpton. 'Lotfield' (of which the name survives in Lovell Barn, Chailey)⁴ evidently covered Chailey, Wivelsfield, and probably a small part of Lindfield; Lindfield and Burleigh apparently included, besides Lindfield and Burleigh Arches, Ardingly, West Hoathly, a large part of Balcombe, and part of Cuckfield. The same three vills appear in 1316,⁵ but by 1327 the third vill had been divided into five, namely, Balcombe, Lindfield Bardolf, Lindfield Arches, Ardingly, and (West) Hoathly.⁶ In 1332 these five were reduced to two, both called Lindfield. An analysis of the names of tenants paying the subsidy shows that the first included Balcombe, Hoathly, Ardingly, and Lindfield Bardolf, while the second corresponded to Lindfield Arches. Streat and 'Lofeld' remained unaltered.⁷ By the beginning of the 17th century the vills or boroughs had been divided into north and south groups; West Hoathly, Lindfield Bardolf, Balcombe,⁸ and Ardingly in the north, and the parishes now forming the hundred (with Lofilde) in the south portion.⁹ In the surveys of 1624 and 1651 Lofeld and Lindfield Arches are not included, and it is noticeable that at least between 1597 and 1622 they alone did not pay the 'common fine' to the hundred court.¹⁰

The outlying boroughs of the north contained parts of the large demesne manor of Ditchling, and it is uncertain when they were actually transferred to Buttinghill Hundred.¹¹ Lindfield was apparently removed to Pevensey Rape

¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 441-2, 443 n.

² *Ibid.* 436a.

³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 51.

⁴ *Place-Names of Suss.* ii, 297.

⁵ *Feud. Aids*, v, 136. Lotfield is here 'Louelde'.

⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 178-81.

⁷ *Ibid.* 292-5. Another vill of 'Lyndfeld and Bourghel' is given at the same date under Loxfield Hundred, with almost identical names: *ibid.* 310-11.

⁸ This portion is called in a Subs. R. of 1621 'Balcomb Burrow' (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix., 87); the rest was included in Buttinghill Hundred (*ibid.* 80).

⁹ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv), 131-2.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* Horsfield, *Hist. of Sussex*, i, 104; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxiii, 232.

¹¹ Budgen's map of 1724 shows the boundaries of the Hundred as at present. Add. MS. 5684, fol. 196 is uncertain on the point.

STREAT HUNDRED

before 1621,¹² but as late as 1854 all the boroughs appear in the court leet or view of frankpledge of Streat Hundred, 'Loxfield' still being included in the south as a 'free borough'. Constables, aldermen, and headboroughs were appointed for each borough, with the addition of street drivers from 1821, but headboroughs were omitted from 1844.¹³

The hundred of Streat has always descended with the Barony of Lewes (q.v.). In 1412 it was valued at £12 10s.¹⁴

¹² *Place-Names of Suss.* ii, 340.

¹³ Court Bk. of Streat Hund., Lewes. The place of meeting is not recorded.

¹⁴ *Feud Aids*, vi, 520.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

CHAILEY

Chaglegh, Cheagele (xi cent.); Chagelegh (xiii cent.); Cheyleigh, Chaley (xvi and xvii cent.).

Chailey is a large Wealden parish of 5,451 acres. By the East Sussex Review Order of 1934 detached parts of the parish, including Allington House and Warnin-gore, were transferred to East Chiltington (q.v.). The soil is strong clay and there are potteries in the south-east of the parish. The railway station (Newick and Chailey) is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of the village on the East Grinstead and Lewes branch of the Southern Railway, which runs through the eastern part of the parish. Chailey is the head of a rural district.

The elevation of the parish is low in the south, only in places reaching 100 ft., the lowest part being along the Longford Stream, which runs into the Ouse. Farther north the ground rises somewhat, and the upper part of North Common attains a height of just over 200 ft. Here the parish extends north-east and slopes down to the Ouse Valley, and in this projection are situated Wapsbourne Farm and Wood, Sheffield Park station (on the same railway line), and St. Agnes Mission Church (erected in 1908). South of Wapsbourne Farm the Blackbrook crosses the parish and runs into the Ouse. On North Common are the Heritage Craft Schools for Cripples, with the buildings for boys on both sides of the road and that for girls farther north. This road enters the parish from Scaynes Hill and runs across it eastward to Newick and Maresfield, crossing the road from London to Lewes at the eastern side of the common. To the west of the cross-roads is St. Mary's Church (a chapel of ease erected in 1876), on the Common. From the middle of North Common roads run south-west to Wivelsfield Green, and south past Godley's Green to Plumpton. Great Homewood lies to the east of the latter, in the south-western corner of the parish, with the Hooke to the east of it.

The Lewes road runs south from North Common, with Bineham in its park on the west side of it, through the main part of the village, with the church of St. Peter, to South Common, now wholly inclosed, where St. John's Mission Church (erected in 1895) stands, with Chailey Potteries, still in the hands of the Norman family by whom they were started c. 1740, on the opposite side of the road. Here a road turns west to the Chailey Institution, and a long projection of the parish runs south, down to Comps Wood and the stream coming from Plumpton. Balneath Manor house is near the Lewes road, to the south of the Potteries, but just outside the boundary of the parish.

There is a Nonconformist Mission Hall at South Common.

The Rectory, situated on a narrow lane running west from the church, is surrounded by a moat, said to have been dug by a parson in the reign of Queen Anne, but more probably older; the moat has a brick revetment and is fed by a stream at the back of the house. A typical 18th-century south-east front of brick and tile-hanging seems to have been added on to a 16th-century house; the main rooms have panelling without mitres, of the Elizabethan period, that in the dining-room being painted green in the time of George

IV and not since redecorated.¹ Part of a Charles I bedstead has been inserted above the drawing-room fire-place, which has a 1635 fireback with the royal arms, and iron dogs of similar date. The dining-room fire-place has a four-centred head with bold roll- and cavetto-moulded jambs, of c. 1540; a fine beam in this room has similar mouldings; the overmantel is of the late 17th century. The hall shows six-panelled doors of the 18th century, and a staircase of like date with delicate turned balusters and columnar newel. There are Georgian out-buildings at the back, and a tithe barn of c. 1600.

The Hooke, the residence of Colonel Tillard, has an extensive park. Grimm's drawing of c. 1780,² from the north, suggests a house of late-17th-century date with hipped roofs, mullioned and transomed windows, with some sashes, and a triangular door-hood. This block, modernized, is now central and has a balustraded top. The west front, with two bay projections, seems to have been added early in the 18th century, but the semi-hexagonal bays are unusual for this period. The crenellations (shown by Grimm) may have replaced a hipped roof in the days of the first Gothic revival. The dining-room is lined with large panelling with bolelection mouldings and dado in Wren style. The staircase has twisted balusters, flat-topped moulded handrail, and dado panelling; it dates from c. 1700. A window on the top floor retains a portion of late-17th-century glass, with a Pegasus, said to come from the Inner Temple. Another later fragment elsewhere has a stag's head and crown.

On a road from Newick which joins the Lewes road by an inn south of the old church is 'Furze Grove', a timber-framed house of the 16th century, considerably restored. It shows Georgian brick with timber-framing, partly tile-hung, above. There are wide lintelled fire-places on both floors, a 16th-century partition with chamfered uprights and moulded top, stop-chamfered ceiling-beams, and a strutted king-post in the roof. Farther north-east is a 17th-century tile-hung and brick house of three bays, now forming two cottages, having chamfered beams and a central chimney-stack. A thatched cottage east of it has timber-framing concealed by plaster and brick; a turned pendant, probably reset, remains on the east gable end. Ades, on the east side of the road, is a substantial Georgian house.³ 'Cinders', on the same side, has timber-framing in square panels over a later brick base, and contains four bays of two stories. There is a good hipped gable, timber-framed, at the west end, and a modern addition to the east. The hall has a wide oak-lintelled fire-place with recesses at the back, off a passage. South of it projects a room having late-17th-century panelling; the room above has a three-light casement window with original bars. There is a wide fire-place above that in the hall, and stop-chamfered beams are exposed, also wide baulks to the first floor. A small room on ground-level has a floor of Sussex marble.

'Ovendeau', a cottage near South Common Post Office, on the east side of the Lewes road, was built in the late 16th century, of T-shaped plan. Some timber

¹ Information from the Rev. H. Grepe. Horsfield, writing in 1827, speaks of recent 'considerable repairs'. The bay window

to the north is a modern addition. The chimneys are 18th-century or later.

² Add. MS. 5677, fol. 55.

³ For Grimm's drawing of 'Eades' see Add. MS. 5677, fol. 26.

framework shows externally, the rest is of brick and weather-boarding. There is a central chimney-stack with wide fire-places; stop-chamfered ceiling-beams are exposed, and in the north wall of the dairy is a series of square brick recesses. Two original windows remain in the first floor, one with an ogee moulding.

Shelley's Farm, a mile east of the Lewes road, is an early-17th-century house, refaced with Georgian brick, but retaining its original doors and wide fire-places.

Longridge Farm, on North Common, dates probably from the 16th century, the period of an external chimney-stack on a north gable. A 17th-century central stack serves a wide lintelled fire-place. The original stair remains, but is closed to the attics. An original window still exists on the north side, and wide panels show internally near it, but the north front is plastered above the Georgian brick and has weather-boarding on the gable.

Wapsbourne lies in the extreme north of the parish. The house is a fine example of 17th-century⁴ building in timber-framing and brick, of L-shaped plan,⁵ with ends extending north and east. Apart from the extravagant number of chimneys (eleven) the most interesting features of the exterior are found on the inner faces of the L, and especially the north gable end. The timber-framing here shows completely, on a brick base, with square panels of plastered wattle-and-daub. The northern bay window has a base of thin bricks with roll-moulded plinth, and an original five-light window to the first floor, with filleted-roll frame, mullions, and transoms, and old glass in diamond-shaped quarries. In the ground-floor window mullions of the later 17th century have been inserted, making four lights of small oblong panes. The attic projection, with a four-light window, is supported on this bay and on carved scroll brackets. The moulded barge-boards and central turned pendant are original. The east face of the L has no windows except at the southern end, where there is a later 17th-century three-light on the ground floor, and a small one, with filleted-roll mullions and oblong panes, over a modern brick porch, which contains a nail-studded door, re-used. The north face contains a late-17th-century four-light window, and above to the west an original five-light.

The gabled east end is of brick above a roll-moulded plinth, and the windows on three floors are of late-17th-century three-light type. There is a moulded barge-board and a finial almost identical with that on the north end. The south chimney projection, in slightly wider brick, was probably added in the second quarter of the 17th century. There is a straight joint with the later east gable. There are two groups of three shafts, diagonally set and hiding the original dormers. In the stack is a later window with segmental arch on the ground level, and a blocked opening on each floor above. West of the chimney-stack, a brick porch was probably added at the same time, the doorway within having an original flat arch and key-stone. A

window with like treatment has been blocked above the porch, and there are similar heads to a central window on each floor of this end. Between each floor is a roll-moulded string-course, with tiles on the upper chamfer. The west wall has two diagonal chimneys, similar, but not projecting. Near the north-west angle is a chimney projection with three more diagonally set shafts and a roll-topped plinth below; a low modern addition projects to the north. The roofing is in Horsham slate.

The largest of the many fire-places is of the usual wide oak-lintelled type, on the south wall of the ground floor, and has late-17th-century cupboards inserted in the jambs. There are original cupboards under the north bay window at first-floor level. Chamfered ceiling beams with leaf stops are exposed, and there are several old plank doors, one to the staircase having an original grating. The staircase is of newel type, with turned finials at attic level.

Evidence of former iron-works in the eastern part of the parish is shown by such names as 'le synder', a tract of common enclosed about 1623,^{5a} and Cinders Farm and Cinder Hill.

Chailey presumably formed part of the *MANORS* 7 knights' fees held of the honor in 1242-3 by Hugh de Plaiz in Iford and Wapsbourne,⁶ which in 1439, after the division of the honor, were held as 7 fees in Wapsbourne, Chailey, Iford, and Worth, by the heirs of Richard Plaiz, of Elizabeth, Lady Bergavenny.⁷ The subsequent history of the overlordship presumably followed that of the manor of Wapsbourne (q.v.).

In 1284-5 'Chagelegh' was in the king's hands during the minority of Giles de Plaiz.⁸ The earliest reference to a manor of *CHAILEY*, however, occurs in 1256, when Alice de Plaiz, widow of Hugh, sought one-third of it as dower from her step-son Richard de Plaiz.⁹ From this time onwards, with the exception of one reappearance in the hands of Sir Roger Lewknor in 1497,¹⁰ the manor disappears from view. It seems probable that its identity became merged in that of Warningore (q.v.).¹¹ A manor of Newick and Chailey was conveyed in 1659 by William Boord to George Butterwick¹² and in 1683 by William Boord and his wife Joan to Timothy Burrell.¹³ There is no further trace of Chailey as a manor.

*BALNEATH*¹⁴ [Balneth (xvi to xviii cent.)] formed part of the possessions of St. Pancras Priory at Lewes until the Dissolution.¹⁵ It was perhaps identical with the land which William de Warenne granted to the priory about 1095, being his demesne land 'from Beuehorne (Bevern) Bridge to Cheagele (Chailey)¹⁶ from the east road to the road beside the Bridge of Hamwde', which seems roughly to correspond with its present situation. The tenants of this manor had to carry 600 cartloads of wood yearly to the priory from Homewood and Balneath Wood.¹⁷ After the Dissolution Balneath, with the other possessions of the priory, was granted first to Thomas Cromwell in 1538, and later, in 1541, to Anne of Cleves for her life.¹⁸ The reversion of the

⁴ A pendant on the north gable bears what is said to be the date 1606 (Add. MS. 5684, fol. 157), the year after the manor was acquired by David Middleton.

⁵ Foundations found in the lawn suggest an east wing, possibly never completed, to form a half-H plan.

^{5a} *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 8.

⁶ *Bk. of Fees*, 690.

⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 190.

⁸ *Feud. Aids*, vi, 130; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 337.

⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. vii), 607.

¹⁰ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 558, no. 35.

¹¹ In Chailey parish until 1934, when it was transferred to East Chilton.

¹² *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 317; *Recov. R. Hil.* 1659, no. 102.

¹³ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 317; *Recov. R.* 35 Chas. II, ro. 166; cf.

Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Ardingly), 21.

¹⁴ The lands of this manor are nearly all in Chailey parish, although the manor house is just in Barcombe.

¹⁵ Dugdale, *Mon.* v, 18.

¹⁶ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc., xxxviii), 29.

¹⁷ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvi, g. 305 (70).

¹⁸ *Ibid.* xiii (i), g. 384 (74); *ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

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manor was granted in 1552 to Sir William Goring,¹⁹ who died in 1554. His son Sir Henry obtained possession of it,²⁰ and Balneath remained in the Goring family without a break until the end of the 19th century,²¹ being purchased from them about 1900 by Sir William Grantham, K.C., from whom it descended to his son William Wilson Grantham, esq., V.D., K.C., J.P., the present owner. The custom of Borough English obtained in this manor.²²



GORING. *Argent a chevron between three rings gules.*

WAPSBOURNE [Weplesburn (xii cent.); Werplesburn (xiii cent.); Warplesbourne (xv cent.); Wappesbourne, Wapyllyssborne, Worpesborn (xvi cent.)] formed part of the 7 fees held by the family of Plaiz, of the honor of Lewes,²³ and the overlordship descended with the Bergavenny third of the honor after 1439.²⁴

It is first mentioned in 1197, when Ralph de Plaiz granted a pond and watercourse there to Maud de Dive and her son Hugh.²⁵ Wapsbourne descended in the same manner as Iford (q.v.),²⁶ Worth, and Waringore²⁷ until it came to Roger Lewknor, who in 1538 sold it to Sir John Harecourt.²⁸ By 1559 it was divided into five parts, the holders being John Woodland and Agnes, Robert Danyell and Elizabeth, Richard Martyn and Joan, Anthony Morley and Bridget, and Thomas Rickson and Mary. George Goring acquired two-fifths from Martyn and Danyell in 1567 and 1568, but sold one of them to John Frend in 1577. At the end of the century Richard Scrase purchased two-fifths from Richard Frend and Thomas Rickson, and Anthony Morley sold his share to John and Edward Holmewood.²⁹ Finally in 1605 all five shares were acquired from Richard and Tuppin Scrase, Edward Holmewood, William Carpenter, and Robert Baker, by David Middleton, who held the manor of the Castle of Lewes for one knight's fee.³⁰ From David, Wapsbourne passed to his son Lewknor Middleton, who was holding it in 1653.³¹ By 1677 it had come into the possession of Henry Norton, who died about 1681, leaving it to his three daughters, Sarah Vernetty, Anne Corbett, and Mary Norton. Sarah bequeathed her portion to Mary in 1716,³² and in 1726 Edmund Corbett, son of Anne, conveyed his third to Anne, widow of George, 13th Lord Bergavenny,³³ who in 1744 married John, Lord de la Warr.³⁴ In 1750 the latter acquired the remaining two-thirds from Abel Walter and Jane,³⁵ who had presumably acquired them from Mary Norton's trustees. Twenty years later John, Earl de la Warr, their son,³⁶ conveyed Wapsbourne to John Baker Holroyd, 1st baron and subsequently Earl of Sheffield.³⁷ His son, the second earl, was holding it in 1823.³⁸ With the rest of the Sheffield property, it passed on the death of the third and last Earl of Sheffield in 1909 to Lord Stanley of

Alderley, by whom it was sold to Arthur Gilstrap Soames, who died in 1935. His widow, Mrs. Soames, holds it for life, with reversion to his nephew, Captain Soames.

The church of *ST. PETER* is built of *CHURCH* sandstone rubble, plastered, with ashlar dressings, except that the east wall of the south aisle is of sandstone ashlar, as is the modern extension. The west tower has a shingled spire, and the chancel roof is tiled; otherwise Horsham slates are used throughout. The nave has been modernized; the chancel and west tower, of similar width to it, were built in the middle of the 13th century, and a south aisle was added in the late 14th century. The existing south arcade is modern, together with the double north aisle and chancel arch.

The chancel (27 ft. 10 in. × 15 ft. 8 in.) shows much of its original mid-13th-century character, though it has been restored. The east end has contemporary right-angled buttresses of two stages and plinth; the east window has now three lancets, but the heads of the lights are probably a 17th-century simplification, as they have coarse mullion-like filleted rolls on the inside; also the south arc of the central and taller lancet is asymmetrical. No doubt the window had a traceried head originally, bound by the segmental enclosing arch of roll and hollow mouldings. The hood has an undercut roll and carved head stops; further mutilated sculpture remains at the south spring-stone. The window has two internal orders with six shafts in all, having triple-roll bases and stiff-stalk and other capitals; the abaci are circular in plan, of double roll section. There are four shafts to the lights, with an enclosing arch moulded like that on the external wall. The rear-arch is also segmental-pointed and supported on similar jamb shafts; it has roll and fillet mouldings and the hood, an undercut roll, has carved head stops. The north wall has three original lancets with chamfered heads; each has a segmental-pointed rear-arch with double roll mouldings, supported on jamb shafts similar to those in the east window; the capitals are various, foliated, and the easternmost has a bird and dragon carving. The south wall has three similar lancets, the west being slightly longer. In Sharpe's drawing of 1805,³⁹ however, it is short and has below it an ogee light with label; the middle lancet is shown with a pointed doorway underneath (mentioned by Hussey in 1852 as blocked). The piscina is restored and has a trefoil head and eight-petalled drain. The internal string-course was added at the restoration. The chancel arch is 19th-century work.

The nave (40 ft. 10 in. × 15 ft. 7 in.) retains no original features. The double north aisle (with two arcades of three bays) is peculiar, and of two dates in the 19th century; there is a west annexe to each. The south arcade (of two bays) was built in 1878-9, when the galleries over the south aisle and west end were removed. East of it is a modern arch to the organ at the end of the south aisle.

¹⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 10.
²⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 480 and 481.
²¹ *Ibid.* xiv, 483, 486; xix, 79, 80.
Add. MS. 5683, fol. 33; Cal. Deeds W. G. Lewes, 11-27, 45.

²² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 179.

²³ *Bk. of Fees*, 690.

²⁴ *Bk. of Fees*, 190.

²⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, 8.

²⁶ In Swanborough Hund.

²⁷ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii,

336-7; *Suss. Rec. Soc.*, vii, 60; Add. Ch. 20087.

²⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 445.

²⁹ *Ibid.* 465.

³⁰ *Ibid.*; *Bk. of J. Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv), 195. The fifth name here is given as Vicarye instead of Baker. David Middleton's mother was Jane, daughter of Richard Lewknor, descendant of a collateral branch of the family.

³¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 466.

³² Add. MS. 5684, fol. 156.

³³ Feet of F. Suss. East. 12 Geo. I.

³⁴ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 38-9.

³⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 340.

³⁶ G.E.C. loc. cit.

³⁷ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 390.

³⁸ *Recov. R. Trin.* 4 Geo. IV, ro. 386.

³⁹ In the Library of the Society of Antiquaries. For Lambert's drawing c. 1780—see Add. MS. 5677, fol. 55.



CHAILEY: WAPSBOURNE, FROM THE EAST



CHAILEY CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, c. 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



EAST CHILTINGTON CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, 1802
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)

The south aisle (42 ft. 7 in. × 7 ft. 2 in.) dates to the late 14th century, but was greatly restored in 1878-9. The east wall is old and retains a contemporary window of two ogee trefoiled lights; the chamfered label is intact except for its returned ends. Above is a later square window with chamfered head and jambs: it seems old but does not appear in Sharpe's drawing. Of the south wall, the portion west of the porch is original, but eastwards only the base is old and two rough buttresses on either side of a modern door; the rest of the wall was rebuilt in 1878-9 with two modern windows in each gable. The west wall is old, but

The roofs are modern. In the south aisle some old rafters are re-used.

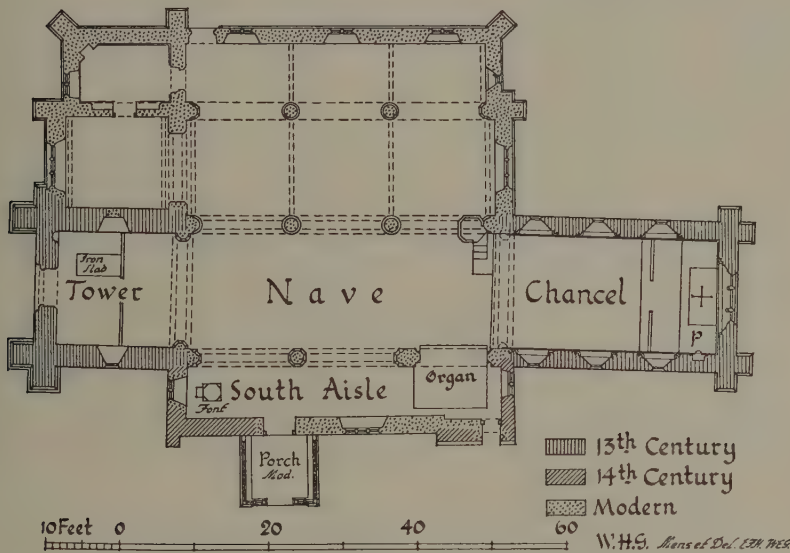
There is panelling of 17th-century date in the vestry at the west end of the northernmost aisle.

There is an 18th-century Royal Arms, and a weather vane dated 1772.

There are six bells—one by Thomas Mears of London—1810, the rest by Samuel Knight of London—1737.⁴⁰

The plate includes a cup (1871 hall-mark), chalice (1895 hall-mark), paten on a foot (1874 hall-mark), and two patens of 1895 hall-mark.⁴¹

PARISH CHURCH of ST. PETER CHAILEY



has a modern window; it is continued south in a buttress.

The porch is modern on an older base.

The west tower (15 ft. 4 in. square) is of late-13th-century date, and undivided to roof level. It has a pyramidal shingled spire nearly its own height. At the western angles are contemporary buttresses similar to those of the chancel; these extend about half-way up the tower. The tower arch was restored in 1878-9, but the old chamfered outer order was retained. A modern screen divides the tower from the nave. The west wall has a 13th-century doorway of two obtuse-pointed chamfered orders; internally it has a segmental-pointed head with jambs chamfered likewise, and an equilateral rear-arch. North of this is a round-headed recess which may have been a stoup but is now blocked by a safe. The north wall has a 13th-century lancet, blocked externally, with chamfered, segmental-pointed rear-arch; the south lancet is unblocked; the west window is a modern double lancet. Above are modern circular windows with sexfoil cusping, and modern gabled louvres in the spire to north and south, with clock-faces to east and west.

There are several yews in the churchyard, of which two are especially fine and surrounded by seating.

The registers date from 1538.

The advowson of the rectory of **ADVOUSON** Chailey followed the descent of the manor of Warningore (q.v.),⁴² being held by the families of de Plaiz,⁴³ Dalyngrigge, and Lewknor,⁴⁴ until after the death of Constance Glenham, daughter and co-heir of Sir Roger Lewknor, in 1635.⁴⁵ It was then apparently acquired by David Middleton, of Wapsbourne, for Lewknor Middleton owned it in 1653 and 1654.⁴⁶ In 1660, however, presentation was made by Sir William Wheeler, and in the following year by the Crown,⁴⁷ after which it frequently changed hands. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Nevill jointly presented in 1676,⁴⁸ and in 1692 the advowson was conveyed by the Rev. William Rootes to Richard Fowle.⁴⁹ In 1713 Thomas Porter presented; in 1753 Elizabeth Porter, and in 1762 the Rev. Thomas Porter.⁵⁰ Later the patronage was acquired by the Rev. Sir Henry Poole, bart., rector of the parish, who died in 1821,⁵¹ and in 1835 it was held by his widow and their two daughters Harriet

⁴⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 204.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* lv, 169.

⁴² Since 1934 in East Chilton (q.v.).

⁴³ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* i, 711; iv, 121; vii, 49.

⁴⁴ *Cal. Close*, 1392-6, p. 499; *Ch. Inq.*

p.m. 21 Hen. VI; *ibid.* (Ser. 2), lxxv, 48.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* cccclxxv, 25; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁴⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 466; *Recov. R.* Mich. 1654, ro. 226.

⁴⁷ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 49 Feet of F. *Suss. Mich.* 4 Will. and Mary.

⁵⁰ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁵¹ *G.E.C. Baronetage*, iv, 93.

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Hepburn and Charlotte Elizabeth Blencowe.⁵² It then descended in the families of Hepburn and Blencowe until 1906,⁵³ after which, on the extinction of the Hepburn line, it was held entire by Mr. Robert Campion Blencowe until his death in 1936, when it passed to his niece, Mrs. Tillard, daughter of Mr. John Blencowe.

Robert Campion Blencowe, by will *CHARITY* proved 26 May 1936, devised to the Parish Council of Chailey, for the benefit of the inhabitants, a piece of land at Chailey Green, together with the reading-room and other buildings erected thereon.

EAST CHILTINGTON

Childeltune, Childetune (xi cent.).

East Chiltington, formerly a chapelry of Westmeston, is now a parish of 2,500 acres to the east of Plumpton. It lay entirely in the Weald and its altitude varied from 100 ft. to 196 ft. at one point in the north-east, until by the East Sussex Review Order of 1934 detached parts of Chailey and Westmeston parishes were added to it on the south, including Waringore, Allington House, and a portion of Downland running up to 648 ft. Various lanes cross it, running north from the main road to Lewes at the foot of the Downs, and east from Streat; and the road from Wivelsfield to Chailey passes through the north of the parish. The church is in the centre of the parish, where the lane from Streat meets another coming from the south. Chapel Farm is to the west of the church and Stantons Farm to the south, while Wootton Farm lies farther east. The railway line from Haywards Heath to Lewes runs across the centre of the parish, and the nearest station is Plumpton, a mile north-west. The Chailey Institution is in the north of the parish. The soil is loam, sand, and clay, and the chief crops are wheat, oats, peas, beans, and turnips. This ecclesiastical parish was attached to Westmeston until 1909, when it was transferred to Plumpton.

A thatched cottage, on the west side of Chiltington Lane, towards the north end, shows timber-framing and a repaired 17th-century chimney-stack with wide oak-lintelled fire-places.

Lower Burrells, farther down on the north-east side, is an attractive timber-framed house. The main range of three bays dates from the first half of the 17th century, and, not long after, wings were added, projecting north from the end bays, making a half-H plan. The south front shows timber-framing in wide panels over Georgian brick. The east front displays work of two periods: the earlier range has a gable-hipped roof and a jettied first-floor, now underpinned by a brick wall; the wing has slightly different levels, and oblong paneling above a band of close studding over a brick base; the window spacing is original. In the north, or yard, elevation the decorative close-studding is carried on between wider panels above and below, and there is diagonal strutting, also ornamental, below the hipped gable. The west wing is contemporary, but the gable has plain prick-posts between the tie and collar; below the tie the wall is faced with late-17th-century brick. The hall occupies the two east bays of the main block, separated by a moulded beam,¹ and a third of the end bay is divided off by original partitioning, which contains an internal window with diagonal bars. The roofs are now floored at tie-beam level, but retain a strutted king-post over the centre of the hall.

Upper Burrells, farther south, is an early-17th-century house of three bays. A circular plaque on the front with S B 1735 (for Susannah Bradford) provides the date of its refacement in brick, with some tile-hanging at the south end. The west front is patterned with vitrified headers, and each bay has a long white panel common to both floors containing three-light sash windows, of which the side lights are narrower. Original timber-framing shows internally, especially in the upper story. There is an 18th-century staircase, in one straight flight, and cupboards of the same date.

Farther south, on the east side, is a dilapidated cottage (Nos. 42 and 43). It is timber-framed with later brick-nogging or brick facing, and contains two wide fire-places, the western one now curiously placed at right-angles instead of backing; the eastern one has a four-centred head with moulded lintel. These were probably late-16th-century insertions into an early-16th-century house. The next cottage (no. 41) has timber-framing in wide panels, and a repaired early-17th-century chimney-stack.

Wootton Farm is a thatched house of three bays, perhaps of 16th-century origin. The south front is partly refaced with 17th-century brick and has $\frac{E}{H}$ 1652 above an 18th-century door. Original timber-framing with wide curved struts appears at the east end² and in the north wall east of a 17th-century chimney-stack, which serves a great oak-lintelled fire-place, now unused. The hall is now subdivided, but a moulded beam shows that it was originally of two bays, in the eastern of which wide baulks are visible above the old joists. 'White House', to the east, is a small early-18th-century brick house with rusticated entrance and tiled hipped roof; the cellar has a barrel vault resting on great blocks of masonry.

Chapel Farm³ lies south-west of the church. The present house is evidently a part only of a much larger building that occupied the site. The existing fabric is chiefly of the first part of the 16th century, but there is insufficient evidence to identify the rooms in relation to the original plan. The main block is of three roof bays, lying north and south, of three stories (including the attic) and having at the north end a cross-wing projecting eastward. From the east wall of the main block a newel stair projects, square in plan, and at the south end of the same wall is a small eastward wing, of which the first floor is modern.⁴

Of the north wing, the southern exposed wall of its eastern projection is of Tudor brickwork with a large projecting stone chimney with plinth. The fire-place within this on the ground floor has a wide four-centred moulded stone arch with plain spandrels and moulded jambs of early-16th-century character but

⁵² Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 225.

⁵³ Add. MS. 39469, fols. 78-81; *Chich. Dioc. Cal.*

¹ The moulding shows on the west side alone, there being a lower ceiling to

the eastern bay.

² There do not seem to have been any jetties, the north-east post being common to both stories.

³ For assistance in tracing the develop-

ment of this house we are indebted to Mr. Walter H. Godfrey.

⁴ Grimm's distant view c. 1780 shows a low building here, seemingly of one story: Add. MS. 5672, fol. 19.

much damaged. Its east wall on the ground floor is oak-framed and brick-nogged and joins at its northern end an earlier and ruined stone wall that continues some distance beyond the wing to the east. The gable end of the wing overhangs the ground story with heavy projecting joists of the first floor and a bracket on the south-east corner post. The north-east angle rests on the ruined wall below. From the evidence of the oak framing of this wing on the first floor there was formerly a projecting oak window looking east. The whole wing comprises four bays, the two easterly being occupied by the drawing-room on the ground floor and the room over. Both contain Elizabethan paneling. A part of the next bay is occupied by a stair of about 1600, the landing of which is approached by a four-centred oak archway with hollow chamfer. The remainder of the third bay and the fourth form a bedroom in the north-west angle of the house. The wall posts between the third and fourth bays retain the tenons of the heavy braces or spandrel-pieces that formerly made an arch beneath the tie-beam.

The main block of the present house has very little to indicate a definite date. The rooms below were never open to the roof, which is occupied by the original attics, separated by heavy oak framing. From the evidence of the collar beams, the curved wind-braces, and the general character of the framing, the date is just pre-Elizabethan. The roof plate is cut to allow access from the newel stair, which, however, is not much later than the building it serves. It is faced with early 2-in. bricks in English bond.

The most important feature in this part of the house is the fine stone fire-place in the 'Old Kitchen', that is the chief apartment to the south on the ground floor. This is of similar detail to that in the drawing-room but larger and much more elaborate, having vine ornament boldly carved in the spandrels. It is *in situ*, dating from the first part of the 16th century.⁵ Externally the stack is taken up to form a rude gable under the shafts, a rebuilding of the first half of the 17th century. The 'Old Kitchen' contains Elizabethan panelling.

The south end of the building is tile-hung over thin bricks. The roofs are modern, but used to have Horsham slates. The windows are renewed throughout.⁶

The Chaloner formerly owned Chapel House, and the younger branch of the family lived at Stanton's,⁷ a long building, dated 1570,⁸ consisting of five bays, the two western sharing a central chimney-stack with wide lintelled fire-places.⁹ The north porch, central to the early house, is two-storied. A bay to the west, with external stack, was added early in the 17th century, and there is a recent annexe at the east end. The central staircase¹⁰ was inserted in the late 17th century, and the porch bay elaborated into an entrance hall. The staircase branches to east and west; it has square newels,

turned balusters, moulded hand-rails, and in the west part a latticed dog-gate with spiked top. The old entrance door remains, with small moulded styles and original knocker. The south front shows flint and sandstone, with some Sussex marble and brick quoins, and there is 18th-century brick and tile-hanging to the west bay. Stop-chamfered ceiling-beams are exposed on both floors, and on the first some are ogee-moulded, suggesting two-bayed rooms originally. There is a cellar under part.

Across the lane west of the house there is a 17th-century barn, timber-framed in square panels above later brick, part being weather-boarded.

At the time of the Conquest, and before *MANORS* it, there were two manors of 'Childeltune' or 'Childentune' in Streat Hundred. The larger of these had been held by Fredri of King Edward for 7 hides and in 1086 was held by Earl Warenne for 5 hides and 1 virgate, the rest being in the Count of Mortain's rape. Robert de Pierpoint was the earl's tenant and 'a certain knight' held 2½ hides of Robert.¹¹ A second manor had been held of Edward the Confessor for 2 hides by Godric. By 1086 Godfrey de Pierpoint was holding it of Earl Warenne for 1½ hides, the rest having been joined to the Count of Mortain's rape.¹² It seems probable that the smaller manor later developed into the manor of *EAST CHILTINGTON* or *CHILTINGTON FERRING*, and that it formed part of the 10 fees in Portslade, Aldrington, and Ovingdean, the overlordship of which fell to Edmund Lenthall in the division of the barony in 1439¹³ and subsequently to the lord of the manor of Portslade, in whose hands it was found as late as 1631.¹⁴

Beatrice de Pierpoint, presumably heir of Godfrey, married William son of Rainald de Warenne,¹⁵ illegitimate son of the second earl, and their daughter evidently brought the fee in marriage to Hubert de Burgh, with the manor of Portslade (q.v.). It was granted in dower in 1247 to Margaret, third wife of Hubert de Burgh and sister of Alexander, King of Scots, as ½ knight's fee.¹⁶ It continued to descend with the manor of Portslade,¹⁷ passing through Hubert's granddaughter Hawise, the wife of Sir Robert de Grelle,¹⁸ to their daughter Joan, and her husband John la Warr, and his descendants.¹⁹

Alfred de Feringes, mentioned in 1247,²⁰ is the first known sub-tenant, and seems to have been succeeded by Simon de Feryng, who had a son, John de Palyng, but demised the manor for life to Master John de Fering.²¹ Master John was still in possession of the manor in 1280, holding it 'of the inheritance of Emma' wife of George de Barenton,²² but in 1283 John the son of Simon and Amice de Ferring recovered it from him.²³ A Richard de Feryng was living in 1327 and 1341,²⁴ and he and his widow Agnes, who was alive

1st nos. (68).

²⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, 438.

²¹ *Ibid.* vii, 933. He was living there in 1275, together with Amice, the widow of Simon de Palyng, about whom he had an affray with the sheriff, Mathew de Hastings. The latter carried her off from Chiltington on his palfrey, but Master John and his friends followed and recaptured her: *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 201.

²² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 933.

²³ *Ibid.*; *Assize R.* 1260, m. 2.

²⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 178, 293; *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 381.

⁵ There is a four-centred oak-lintelled fire-place in the room above.

⁶ Grimm shows only a three-light window in the southern elevation.

⁷ Horsfield, *Hist. of Sussex*, i, 236.

⁸ Grimm's drawing of the north front in c. 1780 gives a detached plaque, not now visible, with 1570 above the Chaloner arms. See Add. MS. 5672, fol. 19.

⁹ On both floors originally.

¹⁰ The original staircase was in line with the central stack.

¹¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 442 a. This presumably formed part of the 10 fees in 'Herst' held in 1242-3 by Simon de Pierpoint (*Bk. of Fees*, 690), and the 10 fees in Hurst,

Westmeston, and Wrentham, formerly held by Robert de Pierpoint and in 1439 passing to the Duke of Norfolk with his ½ of the barony of Lewes: *Bk. of John Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv), 188, 192.

¹² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 442 a.

¹³ *Bk. of Fees*, 690; *Bk. of John Rowe*, 187, 192.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* 205.

¹⁵ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 323.

¹⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, 438.

¹⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 205.

¹⁸ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 107-9.

¹⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 44 Ed. III,

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in 1356, appear to have left two daughters, Isabel the wife of John atte Nasshe, and Agnes atte Stone, whose son Thomas atte Stone shared the reversion of the estate with Isabel.²⁵ One moiety remained in the family of atte Stone until about 1440, when it seems



FERINGES. *Argent two gimel bars with a lion passant in the chief all gules.*



CHALONER. *Azure a chevron argent between three voided lozenges or on the chevron a trefoil sable.*

to have been conveyed by Thomas atte Stone to John Wodye.²⁶ In 1491-3 a John Wody and Agnes his wife conveyed what is described as the manor of *FERRING* to William Covert.²⁷ He was not holding it at his death in 1494, but his son John died seised of half the manor in 1504, leaving three infant daughters.²⁸ In 1510 John Wody and Anne his wife conveyed a moiety of the manor to Richard Culpeper,²⁹ John Chaloner of Cuckfield, and others. John Chaloner in 1520 left the (? whole) manor of Ferringes to his son Nicholas,³⁰ who held it as $\frac{1}{2}$ knight's fee of the manor of Portslade, and who died in 1566, when it appears to have passed to his son Richard, who died in 1610.³¹ Richard's son and heir Nicholas died in 1613³² and was succeeded by his son, also Nicholas.³³ He held the manor no longer by military service but in socage, by rent of 8*d.* a year, by charter of the lord of the manor of Portslade.³⁴ He died in 1646³⁵ and the manor descended in the family of Chaloner³⁶ until 1729, when Richard and Thomas Chaloner sold the manor to David Fuller.³⁷ In 1827 it appears in possession of William Coast and Margaret his wife.³⁸ The seat of the manor at this time seems to have been Chapel Farm.³⁹

What appears to have been the Nasshe moiety of the manor of Chilmington was conveyed in 1356 by John atte Nasshe and his wife Isabel to Nicholas de Wylcombe,⁴⁰ who was already holding land there.⁴¹ In 1392 this was settled on Nicholas Wylcombe's son Robert and his wife Alice, with contingent reversion

to Robert's brothers John and Peter.⁴² Peter appears to have succeeded his brothers and through him the manor of *CHILTINGTON* *alias* *STANTONS*⁴³ came into the possession of John Ledys, son and heir of Alice, formerly wife of Peter Wylcombe,⁴⁴ and he held his first court in 1449.⁴⁵ The manor remained with John's descendants, the feoffees of William Ledys holding courts there in 1503 and 1505 and those of his son John in 1529.⁴⁶ John was five years old at the time of his father's death in 1515 or 1516,⁴⁷ and his mother Anne married Henry Roberdes, who took charge of the manor till John's majority.⁴⁸ In 1548 John and Agnes Leedes conveyed the manor to Nicholas Chaloner,⁴⁹ who had inherited Chilmington Ferring. Stantons passed to his younger son Nicholas,⁵⁰ who died in 1612, and his son Francis, at his death in 1624, was holding Stantons of Walter Dobell as of his manor of Westmeston.⁵¹ Stantons passed from father to son in this branch of the Chaloner family until 1714, when Nicholas Chaloner, great-grandson of Francis,⁵² sold it to Michael Marten.⁵³ The latter was succeeded by his son John, to whom his mother Ann Marten released her right of dower in Stantons in 1736.⁵⁴ He died in 1741, and his son John left the manor in 1797 to



LEEDS. *Argent a fesse gules between three eagles sable.*



CRIPPS. *Or a chevron vert with five horseshoes argent thereon.*

John Marten Cripps son of John Cripps and Mary Wood niece of John Marten.⁵⁵ John Marten Cripps, of Novington and Stantons, died in 1853,⁵⁶ and was succeeded by his son Capt. Rush Marten Cripps, who died in 1885, when the property was sold to H. Powell Edwards. On his death in 1916 it passed to the present owner, Colonel H. I. Powell Edwards, D.S.O.⁵⁷ *NOVINGTON* Manor first appears in 1258, when it was in the possession of Robert de Pierpoint⁵⁸ lord of Westmeston.⁵⁹ It descended with the manors of Westmeston and Streat (q.v.)⁶⁰ until it was sold by George Goring to George Luxford in 1610.⁶¹ The latter died seised of Novington in 1631, leaving a son John,⁶² and it remained in the Luxford family⁶³ until

²⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 2156, 2170. In the first of these fines Agnes is called, evidently in error, the wife of John de Ferrynges.

²⁶ *Ibid.* 3035.

²⁷ *Ibid.* 3284.

²⁸ *Ibid.* xiv, 290-1; Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Ardingly), 180.

²⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 165.

³⁰ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 205-6; Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Lewes), 41.

³¹ *Ibid.* 43; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 165.

³² Comber, loc. cit.

³³ *Ibid.*, p. 44.

³⁴ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 206.

³⁵ Comber, op. cit. 44.

³⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 165; Comber, op. cit. 41-7.

³⁷ Add. MS. 39493, fol. 82.

³⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 165. William Stacey Coast apparently held the manor in

1791: Gamekeepers' Deputations, Lewes.

³⁹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 235-6.

⁴⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 2170.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* 1828 (1333).

⁴² Cal. Deeds, Lewes, Coll. N. 265.

⁴³ Staunton (xvi cent.). In 1391 Stantonsfee and Ferryngesfee in Chilmington are mentioned: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xi, 382.

⁴⁴ Lloyd, 'Leedes of Wappingthorne', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 41, 43; Add. MS. 5683, fol. 209.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

⁴⁷ E. Chan. Proc. 839 (22-5).

⁴⁸ John's grandmother Joan Allfrye held in demesne in the manor lands to the value of £5 4*s.* 2*d.* She died c. 1529: *ibid.*

⁴⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 415; Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Ardingly), 82; *ibid.* (Lewes), 41.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* (Ardingly), 82 et seq.; *Bk. of*

J. Rowe, 205.

⁵¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 226.

⁵² Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Ardingly), 83; *Recov. R. Mich.* 1651, ro. 130; *Ibid.* East. 1 Wm. and Mary, ro. 39.

⁵³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 415.

⁵⁴ Add. MSS. 5683, fol. 78.

⁵⁵ Pedigree supplied by a member of the Marten family.

⁵⁶ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁵⁷ *Ex inf.* F. Bentham Stevens.

⁵⁸ Cal. Close, 1256-9, 303.

⁵⁹ Novington was transferred from Westmeston to East Chilmington parish in 1934.

⁶⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 178; xxiii, 1779, 3092; xiv, 437, 482; xix, 83.

⁶¹ *Ibid.* xx, 324.

⁶² *Ibid.* xiv, 680.

⁶³ Fine R. 15 Chas. I, pt. ii, no. 35; *Recov. R. Mich.* 22 Chas. II.

the second half of the 18th century, when it passed by the marriage of Mary Luxford to William Hassell, and subsequently to their daughter Ann Hassell, who was holding it in 1786.⁶⁴ It was shortly afterwards acquired by John Marten Cripps of Stantons.

WARNINGORE [Venningore, Wantungor' (xi cent.); Wanighore (xiii cent.); Wanyngore (xiv to xvii cent.)] lies mainly in the parish of Chailey, but the farm of that name was transferred in 1934 to East Chiltington.⁶⁵



LUXFORD. Or a pile azure with three boars' heads or thereon.

Before the Conquest it was held of King Edward the Confessor by four alodial tenants for 3½ hides. Part of this was subsequently attached to the Count of Mortain's rape and by 1086 Earl Warenne was holding the remaining 3 hides, his tenant being Hugh son of Golda.⁶⁶ The 7 knights' fees of which Warningore formed part descended under the overlordship of the Earls of Surrey, passing to the Bergavenny third of the barony in 1439,⁶⁷ and continued in that family until at least 1543.

The manor descended in the family of Plaiz with the manor of Iford in Swanborough Hundred (q.v.). It came eventually into the hands of Sir John Dalyngrigge, who, when in 1396 he was obliged to sell many of his goods, retained the live and dead stock of this manor, with five horses for riding.⁶⁸ Warningore continued to be held with Iford, descending in third shares to the infant heiresses of Sir Roger Lewknor on his death in 1543.

From this time its descent takes a separate course. In 1588 Constance, one of the daughters, and her second husband Edward Glemham were holding a moiety of the manor,⁶⁹ and in 1599 Constance, now a widow, was sharing the whole manor with Sir Ralph Bosville, grandson of Katherine Lewknor by her second marriage with Wyndham Morgan, and John Mill grandson of Katherine and her first husband John Mill.⁷⁰ In 1616 the whole manor was conveyed by John Mill and his wife Amy, Constance Glemham and her son Anthony Foster and his wife Elizabeth, to William Prise,⁷¹ probably for a settlement on Constance, who died seised of the whole manor in 1635. Her son Anthony Foster was her heir,⁷² and the manor was subsequently held, like Camoys Court in Barcombe (q.v.), in sixths by his heirs, Morgan and David Jefferyes, Robert Rochester, Anthony Browning, Walter Bockland, and Henry Watkinson.⁷³ In 1654 five of these conveyed the whole manor to Peter Bettesworth,⁷⁴ but before 1671 it had come into the hands of Matthew Grace, who sold it in that year to John Wheeler.⁷⁵ Warningore is next heard of in 1711, when it was held by the Rev. William

Rootes of Chailey.⁷⁶ Later it came into the possession of the Mansell family and in 1740 was held by the Hon. Christopher Mansell,⁷⁷ who became Baron Mansell on the death of his nephew Thomas in 1743–4. At his death it passed to his brother Bussy Mansell, who died in 1750,⁷⁸ and from this date it follows the descent of Newick Place (q.v.),⁷⁹ the present owner being Mr. Gilbert E. Sclater of Newick.

A chapel of Warningore is mentioned in 1287,⁸⁰ and also in 1303 and 1396,⁸¹ but there is no further trace of it.

The custom of Borough English obtained in the manor.⁸²

The manor of **WOOTTON** [Wodetona (vii cent.); Odintune (xi cent.); Woodton, Wotton (xvi–xviii cent.)] was given by Ceadwalla, King of Wessex, to Theodore, Archbishop of Canterbury, in 687.⁸³ It remained the property of the Archbishops, and was appropriated to the clothing of the monks of Christchurch. Before the Norman Conquest it was assessed at 6 hides, but by 1086 1½ hides which lay in East Grinstead had been attached to the Count of Mortain's rape.⁸⁴ During the 15th century the manor was leased by the Prior of Christchurch to the Prior of St. Pancras, Lewes, at a yearly rent of £10 13s. 4d. There was then a hall with a low chamber at the south end and a small kitchen, a thatched grange, a tiled granary, and a small thatched stable beside the entrance gates. The stock accompanying the lease consisted of 4 oxen, a cock, and 2 hens.⁸⁵ In 1535 the manor was valued among the possessions of Christchurch, Canterbury, at £13 6s. 8d.⁸⁶ After the Dissolution it became the property of the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury Cathedral⁸⁷ and still remains so. It was leased from time to time to many different families,⁸⁸ until in 1716 it was let to Henry Pelham and subsequently to his son Thomas, and to the Earls of Chichester, his descendants,⁸⁹ with whom it still remains.



DEAN AND CHAPTER OF CANTERBURY. Azure a cross argent charged with the letters X sable.

There was also 1 hide in Wootton, formerly held by Godric of King Edward the Confessor, which in 1086 was held by Nigel of William de Warenne. No one lived on it.⁹⁰ Nigel gave this hide of land to the priory of St. Pancras at Lewes and the grant was confirmed by William de Warenne II.⁹¹

The chapel, now parish church, of **UNCHURCH** known dedication, is built of sandstone rubble; the roofs are tiled.

The nave dates to the early 12th century. A west tower was added c. 1200. The chancel was rebuilt later. The church was restored in 1889–90.⁹²

⁶⁴ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 33; Feet of F. Div. Co. Hil. 26, Geo. III.

⁶⁵ Cf. Horsfield, *Suss.* i, 226, 236; Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

⁶⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 419, 442.

⁶⁷ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 334–6; Inq. p.m. 18 Hen. VI, no. 28; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 8.

⁶⁸ *Cal. Close*, 1392–6, pp. 499–500.

⁶⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 461.

⁷⁰ Ibid. xxxiii, 217; *Suss. Arch.-Coll.* iii, 96; *Visit. Hants* (Harl. Soc.), 160.

⁷¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 446.

⁷² Ibid. xiv, 472.

⁷³ Ibid. xix, 283; xx, 462; Add. MS.

5684, fol. 154.

⁷⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 446.

⁷⁵ Ibid. 462.

⁷⁶ He died in 1713: Venn, *Alumni*

Can.

⁷⁷ Information supplied by the Rev. W.

Budgen.

⁷⁸ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.),

viii, 386.

⁷⁹ Deeds, W. G. (Lewes).

⁸⁰ Assize R. 924, m. 59.

⁸¹ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii,

337; *Cal. Close*, 1392–6, p. 499.

⁸² *Suss. Arch.-Coll.* vi, 180.

⁸³ Dugdale, *Mon.* i, 95.

⁸⁴ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 388, 419.

⁸⁵ *Cal. Deeds.* A. Lewes, 610–11.

⁸⁶ Dugdale, *Mon.* i, 119.

⁸⁷ *Cal. Deeds.* A. Lewes, 612, &c.

⁸⁸ Ibid.

⁸⁹ Ibid. 643–59; *Cal. Deeds.* W. G. Lewes, 86–100.

⁹⁰ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 442.

⁹¹ *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii), 12, 22.

⁹² See Lambert's drawing of 1777: Add. MS. 5677, fol. 50; also Sharpe's of 1802 in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries. W. E. Meads, article in *Sussex Express*, 14 Aug. 1931.

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The chancel (16 ft. 2 in. × 15 ft. 10 in.) presents few original features. The east wall with its diagonal buttresses is modern, but a 15th-century cross is re-used. The north wall is probably a 14th-century rebuild and has a chamfered plinth. The south wall is contemporary, with a modern two-light window. The chancel arch was rebuilt 1889-90.

The nave (36 ft. 6 in. × 18 ft.) has a north wall, c. 3 ft. thick. At its east angle is a 12th- or 13th-century buttress in two stages with restored top chamfer and some brick repairs. The west buttress is built with the west wall, possibly rebuilt with the tower. A lean-to coal-store blocks the outside of a 12th-century doorway with elliptical rear-arch and plain jambs. Opposite, in the middle of the south wall, is a contemporary doorway, also with similar rear-arch but loftier, and with a slight chamfer in the head; the outer arch is later and

no buttresses or external entrance. The tower arch is of two chamfered obtuse-pointed orders, of which the outer is probably of 14th-century date, the inner with its corbels modern. There is a modern screen dividing it from the nave. The north wall has a contemporary chamfered lancet with a segmental-pointed rear-arch. There is a similar lancet in the south wall, restored externally. In the west wall is a modern window of three lancet lights. The top stage has, to north, a loop with semicircular rebated head, and a restored loop in the south and west walls; on the east are two rough slits.

The nave and chancel roofs are partly of 17th-century date. The chancel has a tie-beam and later queen-post struts. The nave has three 17th-century chamfered ties with similar struts; the middle tie is marked on the east face—N C I C 1669. The tower ceiling is modern. The floors are of modern tiles and wood, there is a step at the chancel arch and another at the altar rail.

The altar fittings include re-used and restored panelling. There are 18th-century Commandment tables, over the chancel arch; in the vestry is a late medieval crucifix, re-set, dug up in what, since 1908, has been the churchyard. There are mason's marks on the internal jambs of the doorways to the nave. The pulpit is dated 1719.

There is one bell, 1769.⁹³

The plate includes a cup (1662 hall-mark), paten (1739), and another with no date mark, a flagon and two glass cruets with silver mounts, and a pewter alms-dish (1737 inscription).⁹⁴

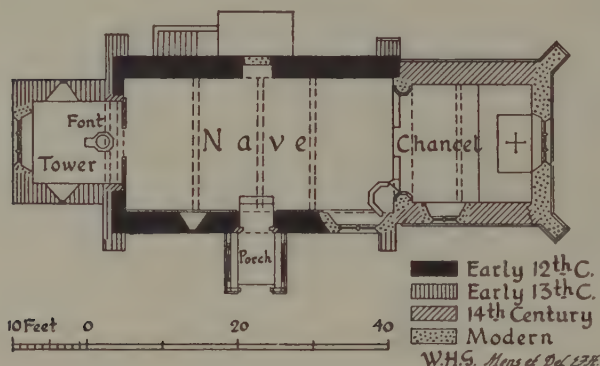
The registers date from 1651.

There is a yew south of the church; it has lost its head, and has been filled with two tons of concrete to preserve the rest.

East Chiltington was a chapel of ease to Westmeston from at least 1291⁹⁵ and so remained until 1909, when it was annexed to Plumpton.⁹⁶

Richard Parsons by will in 1611 gave *CHARITY* the Pit Croft, containing 1½ acres, the rents thereof to be applied to the lame and impotent poor of Chiltington. The land was sold in 1904 and the endowment is now represented by £232 19s. Consols producing £5 16s. 4d. annually in dividends which are applied for the benefit of the poor in accordance with the provisions of a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 25 Feb. 1910.

The PARISH CHURCH EAST CHILTINGTON



equilateral. West of it is an original window; it has a loop 6 in. wide with chamfered semicircular head, a semicircular rear-arch, and hollow-chamfered jambs. A modern two-light window probably replaces a similar loop east of the doorway. The east buttress is built with the east wall of the nave, and is of two chamfered stages without a plinth; the west buttress is similar. The old wall-plate is visible externally.

The west tower (9 ft. 8 in. × 11 ft. 2 in.) is of early-13th-century date and of two stages undivided externally; it is finished with a pyramidal cap. It is also built in sandstone rubble, but less well coursed. There are

DITCHLING

Dicelinga (viii cent.); Dyccanlyngum (ix cent.); Dicelinges, Dicinges, Digelinges (xi cent.); Dychenyng (xiii-xvi cent.); Dytcheling (xvii cent.).

The parish of Ditchling has an area of 3,844 acres. It is a long, narrow strip little more than a mile wide, and about 6 miles long from north to south. The height varies from 124 ft. in the extreme north to 813 ft. at the top of Ditchling Beacon in the south. A ridge runs along the north-western boundary, culminating in the crest of Lodge Hill, 275 ft., just above the village. The village is situated in the centre of the parish at the crossing of the roads from Haywards

Heath to Brighton and from Hurst to Lewes. The road leading south from the village divides almost at once, the right-hand branch going to Clayton and the main Brighton road, and the other branch straight on to the foot of the Downs. The church stands on an eminence in the north-western angle of the cross-roads, with the schools behind it, and the Court Farm and the pond to the west. There is an extensive common at the north end of the parish, with St. George's Retreat, a convent of the Sisters of St. Augustine, and a mental home, in the north-east angle. Near the northern end of the common is Jacob's Post, the remains of an ancient

⁹³ S.A.C. xvi, 205. ⁹⁴ Ibid. liv, 242.

⁹⁵ *Tax. Eccl. (Rec. Com.)*, 136 and

notes.

⁹⁶ *Valor Eccl. (Rec. Com.)*, 1, 334;

Suss. Rec. Soc. xxix, 572; *ibid.* xx, 423;

Horsfield, Suss. i, 235-6; *Chich. Dioc. Cal.*

gibbet. The road from Burgess Hill to Chailey crosses the Haywards Heath road on the common and leads to the brick and tile works known as the Potteries on the eastern boundary. The Southern Railway line from Haywards Heath to Lewes also crosses the common. The Pound is situated just to the south-west of the railway bridge, and adjacent is a Roman Catholic Community of Dominican Tertiaries engaged in various crafts, including the St. Dominic's Press. Fragarrow lies to the south of this. On the east side of the road from the village to the common are cottage homes for retired Thames lightermen and watermen, founded in 1889. Court Gardens Farm is on the west side of this road.

The southern third of the parish is downland, rising steeply to the Beacon and extending southward to the boundaries of Patcham and Stanmer, and including the farms of Lower Standean and Piddingworth.

In East End Lane is an old meeting-house, dating from 1740: 'Mark Rutherford' was once connected with it and it is still used as a Free Christian chapel. The Baptist chapel in East End Lane is now disused, but there is a Mission Hall in South Street.

By the East Sussex Review Order of 1934 a small part of the parish on the north-west was transferred to the Urban District of Burgess Hill.

The village lies along High Street and West Street, which cross towards the south. East End Lane branches off High Street north of the cross-roads and joins the Westmeston road outside the village. High Street shows chiefly Georgian brick and later shop fronts, but there are several older houses.

'The Bowries', in the north part on the west side, is a Jacobean house of two bays with a modern extension to the north. It has wide fire-places and a blocked window with two diagonal bars, to a former staircase, facing the street. 'Old Forge' lies next to it on the south, and is a 16th-century house. The street front has a plastered first-floor over a Georgian brick base, but the close-studded jetty remains at the north end of the building. There is a central chimney-stack with wide lintelled fire-places to the hall of two bays, now divided, and to the parlour on the north, also a bread oven. Several old doors are retained.

Opposite, a little off the road, are 'Ricksteddle' and 'Pear Tree Cottage', which form one house of four bays dating from the 16th century. This is possibly a disguised hall-house with two central bays open to the roof originally. A central chamfered king-post with struts is visible in the attics, and a great braced beam below. In the early 17th century a chimney stack was built between the two eastern bays.

'Rowles Croft' on the west side of the road has a doorway with a triangular pediment of the mid-18th century. 'Colstock' and the cottage north of it form a 16th-century house with 17th-century chimney-stack, serving double, lintelled fire-places; there are exposed ceiling-beams, one moulded in the hall, but the street front shows brick and tile. South of these stands 'Chichester House', with a Doric doorway. Next to it is an interesting timber-framed house of three stories and three bays, set at right angles to the street, now Barclays Bank, with 'Bank Cottage' above. The street front has a high-pitched gable and exposed timber-framing; a wooden plaque is dated 1573. The ground

floor has chamfered joists, but the two upper floors show more original work. The oriel to the street is modern, but an original four-light window with filleted-roll head and mullion remains in the south wall. In the same room is a wide lintelled fire-place with two ovens; the fire-place backing it has four smaller recesses, and on the floor above is a similar but smaller fire-place to the west. Lloyds Bank, next door but one, to the south, is timber-framed, with modern brick-noggings; on the ground floor a chamfered beam is exposed internally.

'Gatlands' stands on the south-west of the cross-roads and is a timber-framed house dating from c. 1580-1600. The original house consisted of two bays, and a third was added soon afterwards. The east front on High Street shows a straight joint in the framing, and the added south bay has studs on the ground floor;



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below the window there is a carved head with curly hair and beard. This side has been much altered; the north end shows more features of interest. The ground floor was rebuilt after damage by traffic, but the timber-framing is original above, and the overhanging gable is carried on a moulded beam supported on curved brackets with leaf-carving in the spandrels and thistle pendants. The end beam and joints, exposed internally, show that the first floor also projected here originally. There is an oriel window of four lights on brackets, with roll- and cavetto-moulded jambs, sill, and mullions. The middle bay, or hall, has a wide fire-place with a seat on one side. In the middle of the partition between the hall and south bay, and facing to the latter, is a post with scrolled and moulded head. West of this south bay is the kitchen, with a runnel in the brick floor, and north of it is the well of the original staircase.

'Anne of Cleves House', facing the church, has lately (1936) been reconverted from cottage property and restored. It is in the main an Elizabethan timber-framed house, facing north and south, with a cross-wing at the west end and a porch-wing at the east, projecting northwards. The north face of the porch, on the street, is of brick; the entrance has a moulded four-centred arch with ogee-moulded label, all in brick. This appears to have been retained from an earlier Tudor house, of which it formed the entrance to a courtyard. Above first-floor level the wall has been

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repaired; stone quoins with curved brackets remain at the base of the gable, but the finials are additions. The sides of the porch are timber-framed; the east side has two panels with ornamental braces on the first floor, south of an inserted doorway and external stair; on the west side on ground level is a large Elizabethan window from a house at Ipswich, and south of it an original door with old lock and latticed hinges. The north front of the house shows the timber-framing in square panels. The western cross-wing has a moulded bay window of seven transomed lights; the window east of it is modern.¹ The first floor overhangs, supported on a moulded beam resting on the bay and on curved brackets. An oriel window of seven similar lights projects farther on brackets and coved panels, and this projection, with lateral coving, supports the gable. The latter has square panels with ornamental braces; the window² and barge-boards are modern, but the apex pendant and the ornamental brace pendants are original. West of the cross-wing is an outshot aisle of two stories, the upper overhanging. The east bay of the hall has a lower roof than the western. The central chimney-stack bears a series of attached square shafts with overhanging caps and slightly splayed bases under a fillet.

The south elevation shows a plastered flint façade common to the cross-wing, western outshot, and eastern stair turret; the latter is roofed separately and has chamfered brick windows, two-lights, at two levels. The wing has an inserted Italian Renaissance porch, a two-light west of it, a four-light window above, and a wooden-framed two-light in the attic. Further east a brick outshot with a low aisle roof conceals the south wall of the hall.

The east end of the hall shows some old brick-nogging and has a great external stack with splayed offsets to the north.

The main block contains three bays, with the outshots to west and south. The central chimney-stack serves the hall and parlour, and the external chimney the eastern-most bay, which is floored at a lower level and may be a 17th-century addition. The fire-places are of the usual lintelled type, that in the parlour having moulded head and jambs. There is a passage on either side of the central stack, and a staircase, of wooden newel form, in line with it on the south; the southern outshot conceals original four-light windows and a battened door. Several old doors remain elsewhere, with traceried heads (quatrefoils), and probably from the earlier house. The room above the parlour contains some wall-painting on the east and south walls, and another moulded fire-place.

There is a 16th-century brick-lined cellar, with four-centred cupboard recesses under the west part of the house.

In East End Lane there are several cottages of late-16th- and early-17th-century date. 'Mulberry Cottage', on the north side, shows a Georgian brick front but the central chimney-stack and wide double fire-places are of the 17th century. 'Cherry Tree Cottage', next east, has a lead plaque of 1579 on the south elevation. Internally the timber-framing is visible, and there

is an oak-lintelled fire-place on each floor, an iron fire-back carved with the three feathers and 'Ich Dien', and two original battened doors, one with strap hinges. 'Eastways Old Cottage', on the south side, is probably contemporary, though refaced with brick and tile-hanging; some original catches remain to the casements. 'Walnut Tree Cottage', on the north side, also dates from the late 16th century. The walls show Georgian brick refacements, but timber-framing is visible internally and stop-chamfered beams on both floors. There is a staircase and some panelling of the early 18th century.

'Pardons', opposite, has a Georgian front in white-washed brick, sash windows, and door hood on brackets. There are casements with old fastenings in the rest of the house, which probably dates from the 17th century. 'The Old Cottage', on the south side, has a 17th-century chimney serving wide fire-places, and a later brick front, and 'East End', opposite, is probably contemporary.

The estate of *DITCHLING* was one *MANORS* of those held by Alfred the Great, and at his death in 900 was bequeathed to his kinsman Osferth.³ Of the latter nothing is known, but the property must have reverted to the Crown, for it formed part of the demesne land of Edward the Confessor. Under King Edward, and probably before, the manor appears to have stretched northward in a narrow strip right up to the borders of Surrey,⁴ and it included 4 hides of land in the East Grinstead district, around Fairlight, with the only iron mine recorded in Domesday Sussex. These 4 hides, with the mine and 6 woods, lay in the rape of Pevensey and were given by William the Conqueror to the Count of Mortain.⁵

William de Warenne was given the remaining 42 hides but by 1086 the manor was assessed for 33 hides only.⁶ Warenne held Ditchling as a demesne manor, with the exception of 10½ hides which he leased to 5 men, who appear to have held them together as one estate.⁷ The main manor of Ditchling therefore descended with the rape (q.v.), passing on the division of the barony in 1439 to the Lords Bergavenny. The present lord of the manor is Guy Larnach-Nevill, 5th Marquess of Abergavenny.



NEVILL, Marquess of Abergavenny. *Gules a saltire argent charged with a rose gules.*

In 1312 John de Warenne, Earl of Surrey, obtained the grant of a weekly market on Tuesday at his manor of Ditchling, and a yearly fair there on the vigil, feast, and morrow of St. Margaret⁸ (20 July). In the 18th century a fair was held on Lady Day, 25 Mar., and after the change in the calendar on 5 April. There was also one on 12 Oct. for pedlary.⁹ They were still held in 1835,¹⁰ but had lapsed before 1888.¹¹ In this manor the custom of Borough English obtained.¹²

The *PARK* of Ditchling is first mentioned in 1274, when trouble arose between the men of Ditchling, under Walter the Park-keeper, and Matthew de Hastings, the sheriff of Sussex;¹³ but it seems to have been imparked before 1216, since Earl John claimed and

¹ It replaces an entrance to one of the cottages.

² This replaces a smaller three-light.

³ Birch, *Cart. Sax.*, no. 554.

⁴ It is known later to have extended to Crawley Down and Cophorne, which provided waste for the northern part of the

manor (*Bk. of S. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiv), 54). This would connect it with East Grinstead, and its hidage can hardly be accounted for otherwise.

⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.*, i, 419.

⁶ *Ibid.* 436.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Cal. Chart.* iii, 194.

⁹ Cheale, *Hist. of Ditchling*, 41.

¹⁰ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 237.

¹¹ *Roy. Com. on Market Rights*, 208.

¹² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiv, 76 and 77.

¹³ *Cal. Pat.* 1272-81, p. 69; *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), ii, 213.

established that King John had granted privileges of freewarren and chase to his family.¹⁴ It lay to the south-west of the village, extending up on to the Downs and into the parishes of Keymer and Clayton.¹⁵ This John de Warenne kept a stud of horses in Ditchling Park, and at his death in 1304 the stud was purchased for the use of Edward, 1st Prince of Wales and afterwards Edward II, and continued there, in the charge of John de Dychenynge, 'Keeper of the Prince's Colts'. In 1305 the Prince wrote to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Robert de Winchelsey, asking him for the loan of a good stallion for the improvement of the stud.¹⁶ In 1439 the extent of the Park was 300 acres.¹⁷ It was still enclosed in 1576, when it was granted by Henry, Lord Bergavenny, to Margaret daughter of George, Lord Bergavenny, the wife of Henry Poole, and her sons John and Francis for their lives. Henry Poole died in 1580,¹⁸ and Margaret and her father leased the greater part of the Park to Anthony Stapley. There was a lawsuit in 1597 with William Overy,¹⁹ who claimed also to have a lease, with some justification.²⁰ At that time, however, it had 'houses, buildings, lands, meadows and pastures' within the pale limits, and in 1632 it is said to have been long disparked and converted into a farm, the tenants of which had for more than a century occupied Westwick.²¹ Apparently, however, it was retained by the Stapleys, for in 1691 the property, still called Ditchling Park and containing 300 acres, was sublet by Sir John Stapley of Ringmer to Richard Webb of Ditchling, with the exception of all oaks and ashes beyond those needed for 'firebote, housebote, haybote, palebote, and hedgebote to be spent on the premises'.²² The Park Farm still forms part of the Abergavenny estates.

Another stretch of ground in the north of the parish, to right and left of the Common, is referred to as the 'Chase of Frekeburgh and Shortfrith' in the 15th century, and in 1439 formed part of the dower of Beatrice, Countess of Arundel.²³ It had an area of 500 acres, extending into Burgess Hill on the west and Wivelsfield on the north-east. In the 11th century this tract was all waste feeding ground for the cattle of the demesne and for those of Ditchling Garden,²⁴ but by the end of the 15th century it was broken up into farms.²⁵

DITCHLING GARDEN Manor, extending into Chailey parish, had its origin about 1095, when the second William de Warenne gave to the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes, 'a garden with houses and the land which is between the two roads, with the wood adjoining it, and two hides there, for my brother Rainald at

his request'.²⁶ The monks were also given the right to pasture their cattle with the demesne cattle in Shortfrith and Fragbarrow, and their men's beasts with those of the Earl's tenants on the Common.²⁷

The profits of the manor were kept in the hands of the Prior of Lewes for the use of the house.²⁸

At the dissolution of the monastery in 1537 the last prior, Robert, surrendered the manor to Henry VIII,²⁹ and in the following year the king granted it to Thomas Cromwell,³⁰ and subsequently to Anne of Cleves.³¹ At her death in 1557 it reverted to the Crown, and in 1560 was granted by Queen Elizabeth to Sir Edward Gage,³² son of the Sir John Gage who was Chamberlain to three monarchs. Sir Edward died in 1568 leaving the manor to his seven younger sons and their heirs male to hold in common.³³ In 1577 five of these sons settled it on Thomas, one of the brothers, and his heirs.³⁴ Thomas Gage of Firlie and his son John incurred heavy fines for recusancy,³⁵ and in January 1581 Thomas sold the manor, with the exception of a barn and a piece of land, to John Eversfield of Worth and his son Thomas.³⁶ John died seised of it in 1595³⁷ and his son Sir Thomas in 1616,³⁸ but Thomas Eversfield, son of the latter,³⁹ with William Eversfield, sold Ditchling Garden in 1621 to Sir Edward Sackville,⁴⁰ who appears to have passed it on to his elder brother Richard, Earl of Dorset, for the latter leased it in 1623 to Sir George Rivers,⁴¹ and died seised of it in the following year.⁴² Richard's heirs were his daughters Margaret and Isabel, but what happened to the manor subsequently is not clear. In 1650 it was conveyed by Purbuck Temple and Sarah his wife to Thomas Gratwick,⁴³ but not long after came into the possession of Thomas Beard, who held courts there from 1656 until 1679.⁴⁴ In 1696 and 1699 courts were held by Thomas Beard, junior, and from 1702 to April 1714 by Thomas Midmer. In that year Ditchling Garden was evidently sold to Thomas Godley, who held a court there in November⁴⁵ and continued in possession until 1742, when he, together with John Legas and Judith his wife, sold the manor to Dr. Richard Russell.⁴⁶ Between 1758 and 1760 it passed to Dr. Russell's son William Russell, who assumed his mother's surname of Kempe,⁴⁷ and he held it until 1787.⁴⁸ In 1788 it was owned by John Ingram,⁴⁹ and the present owner is Mr. Charles James Ingram.



INGRAM. *Ermine a fesse gules with three scallops or thereon.*

¹⁴ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 750.

William de Warenne succeeded to the estates in 1202: G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*.

¹⁵ *Tithe Award*; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 40.

¹⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ii, 82-92.

¹⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 191.

¹⁸ Cheale, *Hist. of Ditchling*, 98, quoting Will.

¹⁹ Chan. Proc. Ser. ii, 285 (35); *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 32.

²⁰ *Ibid.* 40.

²¹ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 114.

²² Portman Deeds, Lewes, no. 252.

²³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 32; Add. MS. 5683, fol. 113.

²⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii, 35.

²⁵ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 114; Cheale, *Hist. of Ditchling*, 98. Frekeburgh became Fragbarrow, and Shortfrith is now the estate of St. George's Retreat.

²⁶ *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.*), i, 15, 21, 32. This appears to be a fresh gift,

'added and given' by the second William to his father's endowments, yet the first William gave right of free pasture to 'the monks' men who live at Ditchling' (p. 8), which points to their already having land there in 1089. The present Court Gardens farm is exactly 'between the two roads', i.e. that leading to the Common, and the lane leading north from Oldland Mill. This property is still exempt from tithe, as ancient monastic land.

²⁷ *Ibid.* i, 35.

²⁸ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 329.

²⁹ Feet of F. Div. Co. Mich. 29 Hen.

VIII.

³⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (i), g. 384

(74). ³¹ *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

³² Pat. R. 2 Eliz. pt. iii, m. 11.

³³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), clii, 144.

³⁴ Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 19 Eliz.

³⁵ Gage Muniments (Lewes), iii, box

19, nos. 28, 29; box 35, no. 22, &c.

³⁶ *Ibid.* iv, box 35, no. 16.

³⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxlv, 103.

³⁸ *Ibid.* Misc. 518 (15).

³⁹ Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Horsham), 90.

⁴⁰ Feet of F. Suss. East, 19 Jas. I;

Recov. R. Hil. 19 Jas. I, ro. 38; *Ibid.*

East, 19 Jas. I, ro. 63. William Eversfield

released his right in the following year;

ibid. Hil. 19 Jas. I.

⁴¹ Feet of F. Suss. Trin. 21 Jas. I;

G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*.

⁴² Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccccv, 153.

⁴³ Feet of F. Suss. Mich. 1650.

⁴⁴ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 139.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

⁴⁶ Feet of F. Suss. Trin. 16, Geo. II.

⁴⁷ Recov. R. Trin. 33-4, Geo. II, ro.

160; Cheale, *Hist. of Ditchling*, 12.

⁴⁸ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 139.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*; *Tithe Award*.

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PIDDINGWORTH [Pidelingeworth, Pedelyngworth (xiii–xv cent.); Pillingsworth (xvii–xix cent.)], a small estate on the Downs in the extreme south of the parish, was held of the Castle of Lewes for a third of a knight's fee.⁵⁰ There is mention of a Martin de Pidelingeworth in 1201 and 1204,⁵¹ and Nicholas de Pydelyngworth was living in 1283.⁵² In 1290 Joan widow of Nicholas held a messuage and 60 acres of land in Ditchling as her dowry, part of the inheritance of Robert le Causays and William son of Robert de Mulstone, presumably her husband's heirs, who then sold the reversion to Gilbert Sykelfot.⁵³ About the same time William de Mulstone sold most of his land at Pillingsworth to Gilbert,⁵⁴ who evidently became lord of the whole property.⁵⁵ He and Joan de Pydelyngeworth were both living in 1296,⁵⁶ but Gilbert's son John was in possession in 1327 and 1332.⁵⁷

The subsequent history of Piddingworth is obscure.⁵⁸ In 1421 a messuage and 200 acres of land in Ditchling, very probably Piddingworth, were claimed against Robert Oxenbridge and others by Thomas Stonkyll and Alice, and John Yoo and Margaret, as heirs of Gilbert Sykelfot, their wives being descendants of Isabel wife of John de Kyngstone, daughter of Gilbert;⁵⁹ but the result is not recorded.

Piddingworth is subsequently found in the possession of the Earls of Arundel, the overlords, in 1425 and 1440.⁶⁰ After the division of the rape what appears to have been this manor descended with Ditchling manor to the Lords Bergavenny until in 1523 it is said to have been granted to John Alchorne the elder, with remainder to his elder son John and his heirs male, or failing them to Thomas the second son and his heirs male.⁶¹ The younger John died before his father, leaving two young daughters, Joan and Agnes, whereupon his brother Thomas took possession of the property, claiming that, in addition to the settlement above made, his father had actually willed the property to him.⁶² Thomas Alchorne died seised of it in 1559, leaving a widow Margaret, and was succeeded by his son Nicholas.⁶³ He was followed by another Nicholas Alchorne, whose mother Alice was holding a third of 'Pillingeworth Farm' in dower about 1615. Tuppin Scrase agreed to buy the property from the Alchornes in 1624, but the transfer was delayed because Nicholas did not produce his mother's release of her share.⁶⁴ It then contained 600 acres.⁶⁵ An owner of



ALCHORNE. *Argent an elk's head caboshed and a chief indented sable.*

the name of Alderson is mentioned as succeeding Tuppin Scrase,⁶⁶ but John Wheeler died seised of it in 1643, leaving it to his son John, a boy of 10.⁶⁷ In 1709 John Westbrook, grocer, of London, left the manor, with 375 acres of land, to his son Durban, whose brother and heir William died in 1750. John Westbrook, apparently William's son, held the estate at his death in 1788.⁶⁸ In 1810 it was conveyed by George Nicholls and Philippa his wife to John Hamshaw,⁶⁹ and some time before 1843 it was acquired by the Earl of Chichester,⁷⁰ whose Park of Stanmer it adjoins, and with whose descendants it has since remained.

The reputed manor of **DYMOCKS** is said to have been part of the inappropriate rectory of Ditchling, and its tenements lay to the east of the road to the Common.⁷¹ It is first recorded in 1569, when two-thirds of it were held by Henry Warren *alias* Deane, and the other third by Richard Michelbourne.⁷² This Henry died in 1595, leaving his property to his daughter Agnes Warren,⁷³ and she married William Bassano, who was holding two virgates in right of his wife about 1624.⁷⁴ Richard Michelbourne's virgate descended from father to son for four generations, all called Richard, the fourth Richard dying in 1638, leaving a son William.⁷⁵ In 1695 John Honey devised his customary lands called 'Dimox' to his cousin Walter Lucas of Southwark.⁷⁶ In 1763 Joseph Constable bequeathed an 'undivided moiety of the manor or reputed manor of Dymocks' to his kinswoman Elizabeth Dobson, wife of John Dobson of Lindfield.⁷⁷ By her will of 1769 she left her land in Ditchling to her son John,⁷⁸ who was lord of the manor in 1784–5,⁷⁹ after which no more is heard of any manorial rights.

The church of **ST. MARGARET CHURCH** stands on a knoll in the centre of the village. The walls are of flint with sandstone dressings. All except the tower were re-pointed for the Coronation of George VI (1937). The roofs are mostly tiled, with some Horsham slates.

The nave may date to the 11th century, but no old features remain. In the late 12th century a south aisle was added, and in the second half of the 13th century the chancel was rebuilt, or transformed into a central tower, and a long chancel added beyond; flanking the tower were contemporary transepts, but the north one was rebuilt in 1863. In the early 14th century the south or Abergavenny chapel was added to the chancel. The west doorway and the south porch date from about 1400.

The chancel (29 ft. 3 in. × 17 ft. 1 in.) was built c. 1260–70. The east wall has no plinth, but an external roll-moulded string-course under the east window; there is a modern buttress at the north-east

police station. Richard Dymmoke occurs in 1327, and John Dymmok in 1332 and 1363; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 179 and 293; *Cal. Fine* vii, 258. Richard son of John Dymmok sold land here to Roger Dalyngrigge in about 1375: *Anct. D.* (P.R.O.), B. 8109, 8110.

⁷² *Add. MS.* 5683, fol. 116.

⁷³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, no. 5.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.* xxxiv, 43.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.* xxxiii, no. 108; xiv, nos. 725,

727.

⁷⁶ *Ct. Rolls, Barony of Lewes* (Wood MSS.).

⁷⁷ *Coll. Deeds N. Lewes*, 356.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.* 362.

⁷⁹ *Gamekeepers' Deputations, Lewes.*

⁵⁰ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 18 Hen. VI, no. 28; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 7; xxxiv, 193.

⁵¹ *Curia Regis R.* i, 382; iii, 159.

⁵² *Assize R.* 1260, m. 2.

⁵³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 1052; *Anct. D.* (P.R.O.) B. 8114.

⁵⁴ *Cat. Anct. Deeds*, ii, B. 2888.

⁵⁵ *Add. MS.* 5684, fol. 60; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 190.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* x, 52.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* 179 and 293; *Wrottesley, Ped. from Plea R.*, 308.

⁵⁸ Rents there were acquired by Roger and Sir Edward Dalyngrigge in 1359 and 1377 respectively: *Cat. Anct. Deeds*, ii, B. 2889, B. 2852.

⁵⁹ *Wrottesley, Ped. from Plea R.* 308.

⁶⁰ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 18 Hen. VI, 28;

Add. MS. 5684, fol. 60.

⁶¹ *E. Chan. Proc.* 853 (38, 39). It is described as lands in Rotherfield, Ditchling, and Streat.

⁶² *Ibid.*

⁶³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 7; Wood MSS. Hove Public Library.

⁶⁴ *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. 2), 414 (68).

⁶⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 42.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.* 196.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.* xiv, no. 1084.

⁶⁸ *Add. MS.* 5684, fol. 60; 39500, fols.

135, 140–1.

⁶⁹ *Feet of F. Suss. Trin.* 50 Geo. III.

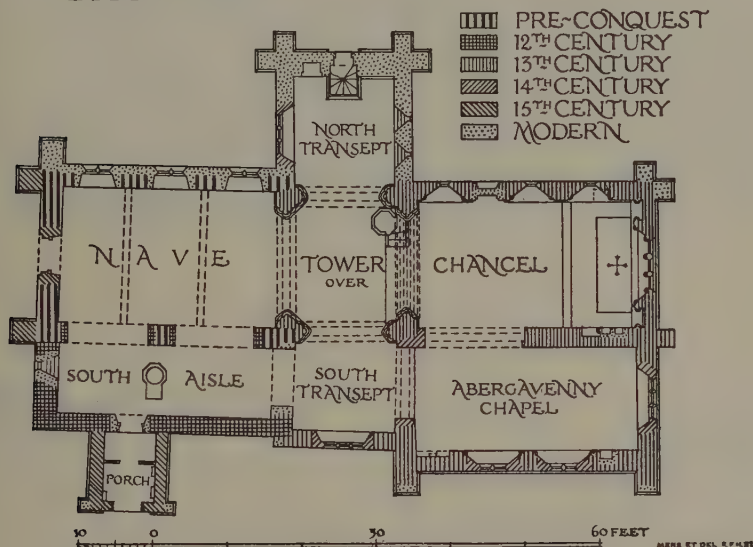
⁷⁰ *Tithe Award.*

⁷¹ *Cheale, Hist. of Ditchling*, 9. The name is preserved in the field, now built over with cottages, to the west of the

angle. The window has three lancet lights with chamfered mullions and early bar tracery, two cinquefoils with a smaller quatrefoil above, restored. The outer arch is equilateral with roll-and-fillet mouldings, the hood has an undercut roll and carved stops; there are internal jamb-shafts with stiff-stalk capitals and triple-roll bases resting on a roll-moulded string; the lights have similar jamb-shafts but their moulded enclosing arch rests merely on the splayed jambs; the rear-arch is obtuse-pointed; its hood has carved stops, the bust of a queen to north, a king to south, the out-turned curls of the latter helping to fix the date; the window is richly moulded internally. Chalk is exten-

undercut roll; the rear-arch has a moulded segmental-pointed head and restored chamfered jambs; the same moulding occurs in the hood, which is continued down to the string-course. The easternmost window has its bases at a slightly higher level, and under it is a modern aumbrey. There is a piscina and credence with two restored cinquefoiled heads enclosed in a pointed arch; the west has a cinquefoiled drain. West of it is a sedile with equilateral chamfered head; on the east it has a roll-moulded capital, shaft, and triple-roll base. West of these a wide arch was cut in the early 14th century to give access to the Abergavenny Chapel;⁸⁰ it is of two chamfered orders, the outer

The PARISH CHURCH of ST. MARGARET DITCHLING



sively used, and there have been some repairs, especially in the light order. Tall niches flank the east window internally, and have slender jamb-shafts. The north niche has a pointed trefoiled head with roll-and-fillet mouldings, but the head of the south niche was renewed in the 14th century as a cinquefoiled ogee. All the capitals extend inwards to support the inner mouldings of the arch; they are of stiff-stalk type, with the exception of that farthest south, which was probably renewed with the arch it supports. There are three lancets in the north wall, plainly chamfered externally but splayed to segmental-pointed rear-arches, elaborately moulded and supported on jamb-shafts with foliated capitals. The roll-and-fillet again occurs in the arch and hood, the latter having head stops except in the easternmost window, which has stiff-leaf carvings. The other stops are, from west to east, a mutilated face with curled hair, a queen with strawberry-leaf crown, a man, a lady with wimple; the triple-roll bases stand on a stepped roll string, restored, as are some of the bases. Between the two westernmost windows is a contemporary doorway, partly blocked; the outer arch is equilateral, moulded with roll-and-fillet, supported on engaged rolls with capitals and corroded triple-roll bases, the hood being an

segmental-pointed, the inner obtuse-pointed and dying into the wall. There is a chamfered rebate to the east jamb on the south side. Original moulded wall-plates remain to north and south.

The south or Abergavenny chapel (30 ft. x 13 ft. 10 in. (E.); 14 ft. 7 in. (W.)) was built about 1300. The east wall is in line with that of the chancel, but has a chamfered plinth;⁸¹ a buttress of two stages supports the junction. The window is not central to the modern gable; it has three trefoiled ogee lights, chamfered mullions, and reticulated tracery; the segmental-pointed rear-arch is restored. In the south wall are two other 14th-century windows, of two lights with one ogee quatrefoil in the head. As in the east window, no hood or outer arch remains. Both windows have internal jamb-shafts with naturalistic foliage, scroll- and roll-moulded abaci, and triple-roll bases. The easternmost window has a semicircular rear-arch and hood, of similar mouldings to those of the chancel windows, possibly re-used from the destroyed south windows of the chancel; there are head stops to the hood, a woman to east, a bearded man to west. The westernmost window has a similar hood but slightly pointed, and head stops; the arch, however, is plainly chamfered. East of these windows is a restored ogee-headed piscina

⁸⁰ Before 1863 there was a low coped wall the height of the string-course.

⁸¹ The plinth is continuous as far as the south transept.

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and west of them a doorway, blocked externally, with an image bracket on the inner face of the blocking; the rear-arch is segmental-pointed, the hood an undercut roll with returned ends but terminating abruptly by the west wall. This wall is flanked by buttresses of two stages. The west arch is similar to that into the chancel.

The central tower (13 ft. 6 in. × 15 ft. 6 in.) is contemporary with the chancel, c. 1260–70. It rises to the height of the nave roof, and is finished with a pyramidal cap. The tower arches are obtuse-pointed to east and west, equilateral to north and south; they are of two orders and supported on composite piers, with capitals and bases to each order. The east arch serves as chancel arch, the shafts being shorter, their bases resting on a double-roll-moulded string and lofty plinths; this arch shows an elaboration of the general scheme, the orders being moulded with roll and triple fillet, partly restored; the outer order is in chalk; there are moulded hoods, that on the east face having a moulded head stop to north, an uncarved block to south; the capitals have stiff-stalk foliage to north, a palm-leaf variety to south. The other arches have two plainer chamfered orders, moulded bell capitals with roll and fillet, similar scroll- and roll-moulded abaci, and chamfered bases; but the east piers have foliated capitals to match the chancel; between the shafts are chamfers stopped at top and bottom; in the east this chamfer has a carved demi-capital joining it to the chancel arch. The tower shows more of the original flint facing than any other part of the church. On both east and north faces can be seen the line of an earlier roof. The top stage has on the north and south an equilateral-headed window. In the spire are modern louveres to east and west, clock faces (1897) in dormers to north and south.

The 13th-century north transept (14 ft. 11 in. × 13 ft. 6 in.) was rebuilt in 1863 with a late-14th-century window of three cinquefoiled lights reset in the west wall. The original transept can be seen in Grimm's drawing of 1787,⁸² Sharpe's of 1802,⁸³ and Dumbrell's sketch of 1860, a copy of which hangs in the vestry.

The south transept (13 ft. 6 in. × c. 12 ft.) is contemporary with the tower and chancel. In its south wall is a late-15th-century window of three cinquefoiled lights, a chamfered label and segmental-pointed rear-arch, hollow-chamfered as are the mullions. The west arch to the south aisle is obtuse-pointed.

The nave (28 ft. 9 in. (N); 29 ft. 7 in. (S) × 18 ft. 4 in.) is of the 11th century, but no features of that date remain. The north wall was rebuilt in 1863⁸⁴ and three modern traceried windows inserted. The late-12th-century south arcade is of two bays with obtuse-pointed arches and slightly projecting imposts with hollow-chamfered under-edge; the jambs are slightly chamfered but the soffits are plain. The west wall is original, without plinth, and has to north and south buttresses of two stages and chamfered plinth, added

c. 1400. The west doorway was inserted at the same period; it has an equilateral arch of one cavetto- and wave-moulded order, and a chamfered hood with returned ends; the rear-arch is restored, with chamfered jambs and segmental head. Above is a modern traceried window replacing a tall flat-headed mullioned window.⁸⁵

The south aisle (28 ft. 11 in. × 9 ft. 6 in.) is of 12th-century date, but has few remaining features. The south wall has a modern lintelled doorway and in the west wall is a narrow modern window⁸⁶ and inserted oval stone. The roof pitch seems to have been altered at the time the nave west wall was built.

The south porch is restored early-15th-century work. The outer doorway has an obtuse-pointed arch of one double-ogee order and chamfered hood.

The roofs are modern; in the early 19th century a chancel beam with dog-tooth was removed. The floors are of stone. There is a step at the chancel arch, and two at the altar rail.

The chest dates probably from the 13th century, repaired. The original glass remains in the 14th-century east window of the Abergavenny chapel.

In the porch are three sepulchral slabs of c. 1300 with floriated crosses. A mural monument to Henry Poole (d. 1580) is concealed behind the organ in the north transept. It consists of two arched panels above, two oblong divisions below, with coats of arms; the dexter base coat was destroyed when a flue-pipe was inserted.⁸⁷ There is an 18th-century pitch pipe framed on the chancel north wall.

There are eight bells, of which five dated from 1766,⁸⁸ but three of these were recast in 1884. The other three date from 1914.

The plate includes a cup (1567 hall-mark), paten cover, chalice (1857), two patens (1854 and 1899), and a flagon (1857).⁸⁹

A sundial south of the church commemorates the coronation of George V (1911); the dial, dated 1719, was formerly in the garden of the Ranger's House in the Park.⁹⁰

The registers date from 1556 (marriages and burials), 1557 (baptisms).

William de Warenne, founder of **ADVOWSON** the Priory of St. Pancras, Lewes, gave to that house the full tithes of all his demesnes,⁹¹ and his son William granted them the church of Ditchling with a hide of land, about 1090.⁹² In 1291 the church was valued at £16 13s. 4d.⁹³ Early in 1346 licence was given to the Prior of Lewes and the Bishop of Chichester to form a prebend, annexed to the priory, from the advowsons of West Hoathly, Ditchling, and Clayton churches.⁹⁴ The scheme, however, was not carried out owing to 'certain impediments', and in 1353 the prior obtained leave to appropriate the churches to the priory.⁹⁵ The last rector is recorded in 1382 and the first vicar in 1415.⁹⁶ At the valuation of 1535 the vicarage of Ditchling was assessed at £11.⁹⁷ The farm of the

⁸² Add. MS. 5672, fol. 14. See also 5677, fol. 49, for Lambert's drawing of 1777.

⁸³ In the Library of the Society of Antiquaries.

⁸⁴ The blocked north doorway was destroyed in 1863 and the old font and Jacobean pulpit removed.

⁸⁵ R. H. Nibbs, *Churches of Sussex* 1851.

⁸⁶ A late-12th-century west window was destroyed in 1863; W. E. Meads, article in *Sussex Express*, 16 Oct. 1931.

⁸⁷ For inscriptions in church and churchyard see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxviii, 132–47; lxxi, 146–7.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.* xvi, 207.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.* liv, 238.

⁹⁰ In 1888 an ancient well was found in the churchyard, probably belonging to

the old Rectory house: *ibid.* xxxvi, 242.

⁹¹ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), i, 8.

⁹² *Ibid.* 15, 34.

⁹³ *Tax. Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), 136.

⁹⁴ *Lewes Chart.* i, 67; *Cal. Pat.* 1345–8, p. 41.

⁹⁵ *Ibid.* 1350–4, p. 380.

⁹⁶ Cheale, *Hist. of Ditchling*, 76.

⁹⁷ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 335.



DITCHLING CHURCH, FROM THE NORTH-EAST, 1802
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)



PLUMPTON PLACE, *c.* 1780
— (from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)

rectory with the chapel of Wivelsfield was in the tenure of John More at a yearly rent of £10.⁹⁸ After the Dissolution the rectory and advowson were granted in 1538 to Thomas Cromwell,⁹⁹ and to Anne of Cleves in 1541.¹ After the death of the latter in 1557 they appear to have been given to Cardinal Pole, but in 1563-4 they were acquired by Thomas Reeve.² In December 1564 they seem to have been conceded to Sir Richard Sackville, but in February 1565 were finally granted to the Chancellor of the cathedral church of Chichester.³

In his hands they remained until the death of Chancellor Ashburnham in 1843 when, by a previous agreement, the advowson of Ditchling fell to the Bishop.⁴ In 1852 it was given to the Bishop of Oxford, who in 1855 exchanged it with the Crown for another, and in 1863 the Lord Chancellor sold it to Richard Hunter,⁵ who held it until 1882; after which his trustees sold to George and Thomas Herbert Norton, who conveyed it to the Rev. F. C. Norton.⁶ The latter sold it a few years before his death in 1921 to the Rev. Prebendary R. J. and Mrs. Lea, who are the present patrons.

The *RECTORIAL MANOR*, which was held of the barony of Lewes, and which about 1608 consisted of some fifteen tenements in Ditchling and Patcham,⁷ remained with the chancellors of Chichester Cathedral, except for an interval during the Commonwealth.⁸ In 1861 the Rectory Manor was vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.⁹ The great tithes, however, seem to have been acquired by Sir Richard Michelbourne, who sold them to Thomas Turner in 1637.¹⁰ They descended in the Turner family, from whom they passed to the Attrees,¹¹ and subsequently to the Misses Dumbrell, who are the present lay rectors.

The foundations of what is believed to have been the old Rectory House, and the tithe barn, were found when levelling the ground for an extension of the churchyard, to the north of the church.¹² The old vicarage was built in the reign of Charles I, but much enlarged by the Rev. F. C. Norton. It is now a private residence under the name of Dymocks Manor.

Walter Lucas by will dated 27 April *CHARITIES* 1742 gave to the churchwardens and overseers a rent-charge of £2 12s. issuing out of his messuage at Ditchling, to be distributed in bread to the poor of the parish. The charge is regularly paid and distributed in accordance with the directions in the will.

Sprott's Charity. Sprott bequeathed to certain trustees property at Ditchling and Westmeston for the relief of the poor of Ditchling. The charity is now regulated by a Scheme of the High Court of Chancery dated 7 March 1778 and Schemes of the Charity Commissioners of 30 July 1897 and 20 Dec. 1910, which provide for a body of trustees to administer the charity and direct that 20s. a year should be paid towards the repairs of Ditchling Church and the remainder of the income should be applied for the relief of the poor. The property has been sold under the authority of the said Commissioners, and the endowment now produces £64 6s. 8d. annually in dividends.

Miss M. A. Boddington by will proved 23 Nov. 1897 gave to the Official Trustees of Charitable Funds for investment £150, the income, which amounts to £3 6s. 8d., to be paid to the trustees of Sprott's Charity to be applied for the benefit of poor widows residing in Ditchling. She also left a similar sum, the income therefrom to be dispensed by the vicar and churchwardens to the poor of the parish.

PLUMPTON

Pluntune, Plumtona (xi cent.); Plompton (xv and xvi cent.).

Plumpton has an area of 2,450 acres, and is the strip of country lying to the east of Streat. At the southern end of the parish the Downs rise steeply to Plumpton Plain, with a height of 665 ft. The altitude in the north of the parish is about 130 ft. The road to Lewes runs along the foot of the Downs, and another road branches from it and runs north, straight up to the north end of the parish, where it branches in four directions.

The road running north is crossed after about a mile and a half by the lane from Streat to East Chilington. North of this is the Steeplechase Course and the railway station, on the line from Haywards Heath to Lewes. Beyond this the village of Plumpton Green straggles along the road, with All Saints chapel of ease, built in 1893, and a Congregational chapel built in 1880. At Sedgebrook in the extreme north of the parish is the County Smallpox Hospital.

The soil is mixed, with a chalky subsoil in the south; large quantities of bricks are made in the north. The chief crops are wheat, oats, and mangolds.

Plumpton Place lies to the east of the church and the County Agricultural College. Two cottages designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens form an entrance, with Palladian porch, leading to his modern bridge over the moat. The house and rose-garden occupy a square inclosure surrounded by water, the moat to west and south and a lake to north and east. To Sir Edwin Lutyens and the late owner, Mr. Edward Hudson,¹ is due the transformation of the lake into a water-garden of great beauty. Before this, Plumpton Place had deteriorated into shabby cottage property.

The house is of mixed material, marking at least four building periods. The north wing seems the earliest, and a date-stone of 1568 with the initials I.M. (John Mascall)² which has been found may refer to this portion, for the west wing is apparently later, probably c. 1600. In the 18th century there was some rebuilding in brick, notably in the south-west, and extensive additions have been made under Sir Edwin Lutyens. The windows are all Georgian or modern. The north front includes some original timber framing, partly filled with Georgian brick at ground-level, and

⁹⁸ Ibid. 326.

⁹⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII.* xiii (i), g. 384 (74).

¹ Ibid. xvi, g. 503 (32).

² Pat. R. 6 Eliz., pt. iii.

³ Ibid. 7 Eliz., pt. ii, m. 23.

⁴ Add. MS. 39333, fol. 92. The advowson was frequently leased to various persons: ibid.

⁵ Ibid.; Add. MS. 39469, fol. 97.

⁶ Ibid.; *Chich. Dioc. Cal.*

⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 232.

⁸ Close R. 1659, pt. vii, no. 13; Add. MS. 5683, fol. 114.

⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 248.

¹⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 217.

¹¹ Horsfield, *Hist. of Suss.* i, 238.

¹² Cheale, *Hist. of Ditchling*, 27. This piece of land was the Rectorial Glebe (Tithe Award).

¹ Editor of *Country Life*.

² Another stone, found in digging the terraces on the island, is inscribed I.M.—E.M.—probably John and Edward Mascall: *Country Life*, lxxiii, 522-8.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

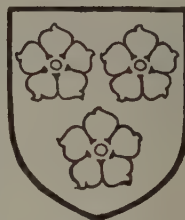
with wide plastered panels above. The gabled west front³ is of two stories with cellars and attics. The walls are a medley of flint with red brick, restored at various times. This part was probably added c. 1600 to an older building, for the projecting central porch and the shallower flanking bays are certainly askew, also the north at least of the boldly projecting wings which complete an elaborated E-plan. The porch is gabled, with two stories and attics; its four-centred arch is of chamfered brick, without rebates. The entrance door within is original.

The early-17th-century screen dividing the hall and entry has one opening to the hall. The opposite wall of the entry is half-timbered, and has an original opening to what was either the buttery or dining parlour. East of this is a passage to the kitchen, which has a wide lintelled fire-place in the east wall. East of the kitchen a large music-room, built by Sir Edwin Lutens on the site of some old sheds, incorporates in its south wall an original brick fire-place. From the hall a door opens into a large room which forms the south wing, containing a stone fire-place with flat four-centred arch. Another door opens to the staircase, which ends at attic level in a Jacobean turned newel. The room above the kitchen has typical panelling of c. 1600 with small-moulded rails, and a cornice. The fire-place has a four-centred arch with ogee- and roll-moulded stone jambs. The stair in this part has 18th-century newels and balusters. The fire-place over the hall is of similar type to the above, and has blank shields in the spandrels. Stop-chamfered ceiling beams are exposed on both floors. The brick cellars in the north part are of the late-16th or 17th century; the south cellars are chiefly of the 18th century.

The manor of PLUMPTON in Saxon *MANORS* times belonged to the church of Bosham, and was held of Earl Godwin by Godwin the priest for 32 hides. After the Conquest it was given with the rest of the Rape of Lewes to William de Warenne, and was held of him by Hugh son of Rannulf for 30 hides.⁴ There were then two mills⁵ on the manor.

It continued to be held of the lord of the rape for 1 knight's fee,⁶ passing to Edmund Lenthall⁷ and subsequently to the Dukes of Norfolk.⁸ Hugh had a daughter Fredesend, who perhaps succeeded to the manor, since she was able to make a gift of tithes,⁹ but Plumpton passed early in the 12th century to Rainald de Warenne and his wife Alice de Wormegay, who were living from about 1118 to 1178.¹⁰ Their son William de Warenne left an only daughter Beatrice, who married as her first husband Doun Bardolf,¹¹ and Plumpton remained with the Bardolfs for about two hundred years. Beatrice died before 12 December 1214 and her son William had livery of his lands on

28 August 1215.¹² He received a grant of free warren in Plumpton in 1254 and died in 1275, when he was succeeded by his son William.¹³ Hugh, first Lord Bardolf, son of this William died in 1304,¹⁴ and his widow Isabel about 1323.¹⁵ Their son Thomas owned Plumpton for only five years, and was then succeeded by his son John.¹⁶ William son of John held the manor from 1363 to 1385-6, and his wife Agnes, who afterwards married Sir Thomas Mortimer, survived him,¹⁷ but their son Thomas, Lord Bardolf, was concerned



BARDOLF. *Azure three cinquefoils or.*

in the rebellion of 1405 in favour of Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March, and his estates were forfeited.¹⁸ He died shortly afterwards of wounds received at Bramham Moor, and Plumpton Manor, after being retained for a time by Thomas, Earl of Arundel and Surrey, the overlord,¹⁹ was in 1408 granted for life to Sir William Bardolf, with remainder to the two daughters and heiresses of his brother Thomas, Lord Bardolf, Anne wife of Sir William Clifford, and Joan wife of Sir William Phelip.²⁰ Sir William Bardolf died in 1423 and the manor was delivered to his nieces, Anne having in the meantime married Sir Reynold Cobham.²¹ In 1438, however, the reversion of Anne's moiety was granted to Joan and her husband.²² Sir William Phelip died in 1441, and Joan in 1447,²³ and their property passed to William Beaumont son of their daughter Elizabeth and John, Lord Beaumont, the other part of Plumpton falling to him at the death of Anne Cobham in 1453.²⁴ William, Lord Beaumont, being a supporter of Henry VI, also experienced a period of eclipse, and in 1462 Plumpton was granted for a time to Sir William Hastings, and in 1472 to Sir John Fogge.²⁵ Eventually Lord Beaumont recovered his estates, but died without issue in 1507, leaving a widow Elizabeth who immediately married John, Earl of Oxford.²⁶ She obtained a grant of Plumpton Manor as part of her dower in 1509,²⁷ but in 1514 the King granted the reversion to Nicholas Carew and his heirs, the direct heir, Francis, Lord Lovell, nephew of William Beaumont, being attainted.²⁸ Nicholas himself, however, shared that fate in 1536 and Plumpton once more escheated to the Crown,²⁹ but was returned to his widow Elizabeth in 1539, with remainder to his son Francis, the site of the manor with the demesne lands being leased in the same year to John Mascall for 21 years.³⁰ Francis Carew in 1555 converted this lease into a sale,³¹ and the manor-house (known as Plumpton Place) and the demesne land remained in the Mascall family for 65 years. The rest of the property, with the manorial rights, was sold by

³ For its appearance c. 1780 see Grimm's drawing: Add. MS. 5672, fol. 8.

⁴ *V.C.H. Sus.* i, 441, 392 n.

⁵ A watermill is mentioned in 1304: Chan. Inq. p.m. 32 Edw. I, 64.

⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. 18 Hen. VI, 28; 1 Edw. IV, 46; 4 Edw. IV, 72.

⁷ *Bk. of John Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 187.

⁸ *Cal. Pat.* 1405-8, pp. 25, 442, 449.

⁹ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 13.

¹⁰ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 323, 324; Dugdale, *Mon.* vi, 171.

¹¹ Farrer, loc. cit.

¹² G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vii, 141.

¹³ *Cal. Pat.* 1247-58, p. 313; *Cal. Inq.* p.m. ii, 190, 772.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* iv, 236; *Plac. Abbrev.* (Rec. Com.), 200.

¹⁵ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* vi, 454.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* vii, 243.

¹⁷ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*; *Cal. Close*, 1389-92, p. 346.

¹⁸ *Cal. Pat.* 1405-8, p. 25.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* The grant included Barcombe.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 442, 449.

²¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 2 Hen. VI, 34; *Cal.*

Close, 1422-9, 87.

²² *Cal. Pat.* 1436-41, p. 135.

²³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 19 Hen. VI, 30; *ibid.* 25 Hen. VI, 29, 30.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 32 Hen. VI, 26.

²⁵ *Cal. Pat.* 1461-7, pp. 103-4, 354; *ibid.* 1467-77, p. 363.

²⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), xxiv, 79.

²⁷ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, i, g. 289 (13).

²⁸ *Ibid.*, g. 2863 (10).

²⁹ Exch. Inq. p.m. 1088 (2).

³⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiv (1), g. 1354 (16); *ibid.* (ii), g. 113 (5).

³¹ *Cal. Deeds A. Lewes*, no. 16.

Francis Carew in 1593 to Richard Leache,³² who died seised of them in 1596.³³ His widow Charity sub-



MASCALL. *Sable six fleurs de lis or and a border engrailed argent.*

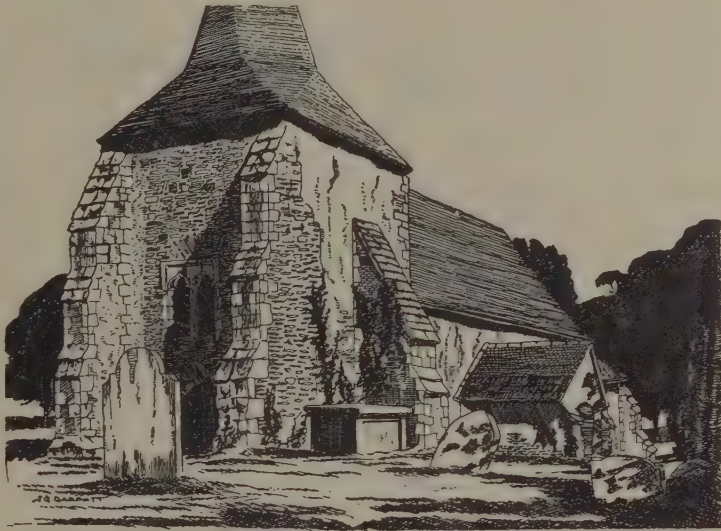


SPRINGETT. *Party fesse-woise and wavy argent and gules a fesse between three crescents counter-changed.*

sequently married Charles Howard, Earl of Nottingham, and died in 1618, after which the Earl married Mary, daughter of Sir William Cokayne and sister of Charles Cokayne, first Viscount Cullen.³⁴ The Earl died childless in 1642,³⁵ and Plumpton Manor was conveyed by the Hon. Charles Cokayne and Benjamin Scarlett to Anthony youngest son of Sir Thomas Springett in 1656.³⁶ Meanwhile the mansion-house and demesnes, after passing from John Mascall to his grandson Edward in 1571,³⁷ were sold by Edward's son Richard Mascall³⁸ in 1620-1 to Sir Thomas Springett,³⁹ who is recorded about that time as the holder of one knight's fee in Plumpton.⁴⁰ At his death in 1639 the mansion-house and demesne passed to his eldest son Sir Herbert,⁴¹ who is said to have sold it to his brother Thomas.⁴² As Anthony, the third brother, acquired the manor itself in 1656 (as already stated) and lived until 1695 the whole estate came into his hands on the death of his brothers without male heirs, and passed to his cousin and heir the Rev. Anthony Springett,⁴³ at whose death in 1735 Plumpton Manor was divided among the descendants of the four grand-daughters of his cousin Sir Herbert, viz. Barbara wife of William Campion, Elizabeth Briggs, William Dobell, and William Hay.⁴⁴ In 1736 the three remaining heirs conveyed the manor to James Pelham,⁴⁵ from whom it passed to his son Thomas, Lord Pelham,⁴⁶ and descended in that family to the present owner the Earl of Chichester.⁴⁷

PLUMPTON BOSCAGE [Buskegag (xvi cent.)], which is first mentioned in 1507,⁴⁸ was a part of the

manor of Plumpton, and remained with it⁴⁹ until 1657, when it was alienated by Charles Cokayne, Viscount Cullen, to Robert Frere.⁵⁰ It appears to have come soon after into the possession of Sir John Smith, who held his first court there in 1661 but died in the following year.⁵¹ His widow Catherine and her second husband Sir William Courtney, bart., held the manor until 1672, after which it passed to Catherine's son John Smith, who held courts there until 1697.⁵² About 1702 it was acquired by John Wakeman,⁵³ who sold it to Leonard Gale in 1717.⁵⁴ After the death of the latter in 1750 Plumpton Boscage was divided between his three daughters and their husbands, Sarah and Samuel Blunt, Philippa and James Clitherow, and Elizabeth and Henry Humphrey.⁵⁵ Eventually, however, the whole manor came to Henry Humphrey about 1765, and he was holding courts there up to 1791.⁵⁶ From 1794 to 1840 William Bryant was



PLUMPTON CHURCH

lord of the manor, in which year it passed to Charles Innis and remained in his family until 1868, Thomas Innis, M.D., holding courts from 1848 to 1860, and a second Thomas Innis after that. About 1877 it was acquired by Charles Hubert Husey, who was still holding it in 1887.⁵⁷

The parish church is of unknown dedication but associated by tradition with St. Michael. It stands isolated in a field, and is reached by a lane and field path from the Lewes-Ditchling road. The walls are of flint and some Sussex marble with sandstone dressings; the roofs are tiled except for some Horsham slates on the porch.

CHURCH cation but associated by tradition with St. Michael. It stands isolated in a field, and is reached by a lane and field path from the Lewes-Ditchling road. The walls are of flint and some Sussex marble with sandstone dressings; the roofs are tiled except for some Horsham slates on the porch.

³² Feet of F. Suss. East. 35 Eliz.

³³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxlix, 71.

³⁴ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*.

³⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. Misc. 17 (2).

³⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 354; Close R. 1656, pt. xxv, m. 10; Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Lewes), 279-81.

³⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cxci, 108.

³⁸ Ibid. ccxlvii, 47.

³⁹ Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 18 Jas. I; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvii, 47.

⁴⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 196.

⁴¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), dxxii, 6.

⁴² Comber, *op. cit.* 279.

⁴³ Ibid. 281; Feet of F. Suss. Mich.

6 Geo. II; Coll. Deeds N. Lewes, 220, 236.

⁴⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxii, 222.

⁴⁵ Ibid. xx, 354.

⁴⁶ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 64; Coll. Deeds N. Lewes, 225.

⁴⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvii, 88; Recov. R. Mich. 9 Geo. IV, no. 299; Lower, *Hist. of Suss.* ii, 100.

⁴⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), xxiv, 79.

⁴⁹ Pat. R. 31 Hen. VIII, pt. i; Feet of F. Suss. East. 35 Eliz.

⁵⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 354; Close R. 1657, pt. xii, m. 35.

⁵¹ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 68; *Suss. Arch.*

Coll. xxxv, 20.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Feet of F. Suss. Trin. 3 Geo. I. From 1690 to 1729 a manor of this name appears in the possession of Anthony Springett, but this seems to have been a confusion with the mansion-house or with Plumpton Piddinghoe.

⁵⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 20; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 55; Recov. R. Mich. 24 Geo. II, ro. 472; *ibid.* ro. 406; *ibid.* Mich. 30 Geo. II, ro. 393.

⁵⁶ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 68; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxix, 189; *ibid.* xxxv, 20.

⁵⁷ Ibid.

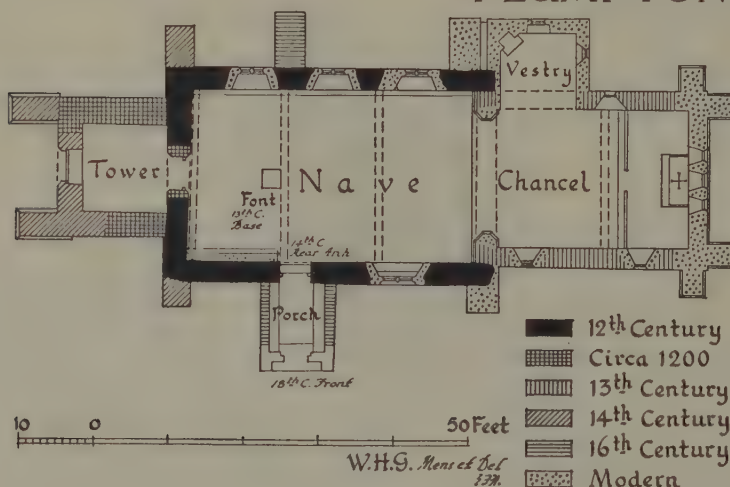
A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

The nave dates from the early 12th century. The west tower was built c. 1200 and has 14th-century additions; the chancel was rebuilt rather later in the 13th century, but the east wall is modern. The porch probably dates from the 17th century, and the vestry is 19th-century work.

The chancel (25 ft. 4 in. × 18 ft. 8 in.) has an east wall rebuilt before 1854⁵⁸ with buttresses and lancet windows; Sharpe's drawing of 1802⁵⁹ shows an east window of three oblong lights and a rough south buttress. The north wall is of 13th-century date and has a good chamfered lancet with splayed jambs, sill, and segmental-pointed rear-arch. West of it is a modern lintelled opening to the vestry, built in 1886.

border, upside down; and on the west a floriated cross in a circle.⁶⁰ It has a straight joint to the chancel but is bonded in to 6 in. of the nave wall. West of this is modern or refaced walling including a square modern window of two ogee-headed lights. Behind and west of the porch is the 12th-century wall; the south doorway has a plain semi-circular head and slightly projecting imposts with groove and chamfered under-edge; there is a modern rear-arch and a brick jamb, to west of which is a recent thickening of the wall internally. The west buttress has two off-sets, the top slope being long and tiled, and continuing up to the tower; it is contemporary with the north-west buttress, and like it was probably thickened when the tower was built.

PARISH CHURCH of ST. MICHAEL PLUMPTON



The south wall is 13th-century but refaced, with two restored lancets, having flatter rear-arches than the north one; the west lancet has been prolonged to form a low-side window. The present chancel arch was built in 1932 replacing one of 1867; in 1851 Nibbs describes three romanesque arches as dividing nave and chancel.

The nave (38 ft. (N.); 38 ft. 10 in. (S.) × 23 ft. 4 in. (E.); 22 ft. 3 in. (W.)), is of early-12th-century build and wide for its length; the north wall slopes back considerably. There is a modern buttress at the north-east angle, another of one long slope, in tile and brick, between the two westernmost windows, and one of three stages which is in line with the west nave wall, but 10 in. thicker (3 ft. 7 in.) than the wall. Nibbs' drawing of 1851 shows three 17th-century two-light transomed windows with flat heads. The present traceried windows replaced these in 1867, but the rear-arches may be older. Just west of the easternmost window there is a narrow blocked 12th-century window, of which the round head and west jamb are visible externally. The south wall is contemporary and has a similar west buttress; that in line with the chancel arch has restored quoins incorporating two worked stones; on the south face a floriated shield bearing a chief, flanked by cinquefoils, in an engrailed

The south porch is a rough erection of flint, cement, and brick, dating probably from the 16th century.

The west tower (11 ft. 3 in. × 12 ft.) bears strong affinities to those at Barcombe and East Chilmington. It dates c. 1200 and is of two stages undivided externally, finished with a shingled broach spire. The east wall has an equilateral doorway to the nave, and above the roof of the latter can be seen a brick-lined opening blocked with wood. In the west wall is a late-14th-century equilateral doorway with widely chamfered head and jambs, and segmental rear-arch. Above it, under a pointed relieving arch, is a contemporary window, of two ogee-trefoiled lights with chamfered label. The west wall seems to have been nearly rebuilt at the same time and buttresses were added projecting west almost to roof level at each angle; these are of three chamfered stages with plinth. The north wall has a small round-headed window in the top stage, but there are no openings in the south wall.

The roofs are modern, except for three old ties, chamfered king-posts, and four struts re-used in the nave, and one tie-beam in the chancel. The floors are of brick, tiles, and wood, with some stone in the tower; there is one step from the tower to nave, one at the chancel arch, and another to the sanctuary.

The font has a square bowl, marked 1710, with a

⁵⁸ See water-colour in Rectory at Plumpton Green.

⁵⁹ In the Library of the Society of Anti-

quaries. See also drawings by Lambert (1777), Add. MS. 5672, fol. 8, and Nibbs (1851) in *Churches of Sussex*.

⁶⁰ W. E. Meads: Articles on Plumpton Church in *Sussex Express*, 26 April, 3 and 10 May, 1935.

late-12th- or 13th-century base; it has a central octagonal pedestal and angle shafts with roll capitals and bases. There are 18th-century Commandment Tables on the west wall of the nave. There are no traces of the wall-paintings discovered in 1867; these were on the east wall of nave: east face, the Flight into Egypt: west face, Doom and Company of Angels. On the soffit of the chancel arch, Agnus Dei—12th-century and later.⁶¹

There is one bell, by Bryan Eldridge, 1639.⁶²

The plate is modern.

The registers date from 1558.

There are several fine yews in the churchyard.

ALL SAINTS⁶³ church at Plumpton Green was founded in 1893, and built of flint with dressings of stone and brick. It consists of chancel and sanctuary, shingled spire, south transept,⁶⁴ nave, and baptistery. The font is said to have come from St. John-sub-Castro, Lewes.

The church of Plumpton is mentioned in Domesday, and was granted by Rainald de Warenne to the priory of St. Mary, Southwark, in the 12th century.⁶⁵ But in

1275 the prior released it to William Bardolf,⁶⁶ and it remained thereafter with the manor⁶⁷ until the end of the 16th century. Richard Leache was holding it at his death in 1596, when it passed to his widow Charity with the manor.⁶⁸ In 1635 the advowson was conveyed by the Earl of Nottingham and Mary his wife to William Hampton, then rector.⁶⁹ It remained in the possession of the Hampton family for about 150 years. The last member of this family, Charity Hampton, married Richard Weekes, and sold the advowson between 1771 and 1786 to John Woodward.⁷⁰ The Woodwards retained it until 1931, when it was conveyed by Mr. W. A. Woodward to the Bishop of Chichester.

Thomas Travers by will dated 26 Sept. **CHARITY** 1710 gave his messuage with the land and garden in Plumpton to the churchwardens and overseers to be inhabited by two poor families of the parish. The property was sold in 1866 under the authority of the Charity Commissioners, and the proceeds of sale as invested produce £5 9s. per annum, which is distributed in groceries to the poor.

STREAT

Estrat (xi cent.); Stret, Strete (xiv cent.).

The parish of Streat has an area of 1,281 acres. The soil is loam and sand and the subsoil sand, clay, and chalk. In shape it is a long, narrow strip, on an average about half a mile wide. The village and church are in the centre of the parish on a slight ridge of just over 200 ft. running eastward across it. At the southern end of the parish the ground rises steeply to the Downs, the crest reaching 739 ft. At the foot of the Downs the road to Lewes crosses the parish from west to east, and from it a lane runs north to the village, at a level of about 175 ft., and continues north to St. Helena Farm. It is crossed in the village by a road from Hailey Farm, which continues eastward as a public lane to East Chiltington. North of St. Helena Farm the road from Burgess Hill to Chailey crosses the parish.

Streat Place stands in extensive grounds north of the church. The house is of two stories with attics and cellars; the walls are flint with sandstone dressings, and some brick in the chimneys and later portions. The main structure was probably built soon after 1607 when Walter Dobell (d. 1625) acquired the manor, and is of E-shaped plan with a porch and deeply projecting wings. Portions of a probably mid-16th-century house¹ can be seen in outbuildings to the west, where are the remains, at first-floor level, of a blocked three-light window in chamfered brick; this is set in flint, but the end wall of the building is timber-framed with wattle-and-daub above a stone base. The north front also probably contains walling of the same date, for the chamfered plinth has been disturbed, especially round the fire-place projection, which is of flint with brick quoins and supports four octagonal chimneys. There are several 17th-century windows and there is

a blocked doorway near the junction with an 18th-century extension to the west.

The east front would be symmetrical but for the intrusion of an extra gabled bay next to the north wing. There are thus six gabled three-storied blocks, including the wider ones of the wings, each having mullioned windows with square heads, usually with filleted-roll jambs and mullions. The windows on ground and first floors are transomed four-lights, those on the east face of the wings projecting as bays; in the attics they are three-lights, except those of the wings, which are four-lights; all have labels, those of the bays being continued as string-courses across the face of each wing.² There are finials to each of the gables at the apex and ends. The gabled porch is of three stories; the hall entrance within is four-centred with roll- and ogee-moulded jambs and head, and high stop-chamfers; the porch itself has a flatter four-centred arch, with blank shields in the spandrels, framed by fluted pilasters and a fluted and moulded cornice on curved brackets, above which is a restored achievement of the Dobell arms.

The south front has a chimney-breast, tile-hung above a chamfered plinth, supporting four brick shafts, diagonally set. West is a tile-hung gable with four-light window, and transomed bay windows below. There is a modern extension to the west and a Jacobean doorway, re-set in 1881, similar to the front entrance. The hall occupies the main body of the house at ground level; in its west wall is an original fire-place with moulded jambs and head. A Jacobean stone lintel, inserted above it, was found in the alterations, and is decorated with fantastic carvings including women's heads, animals and fishes.³ The present staircase was

⁶¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xx, 198–202 (illustrated); xliii, 240.

⁶² *Ibid.* xvi, 220.

⁶³ Information from the Rev. J. C. Poole.

⁶⁴ The plan is cruciform, but the north transept has never been built.

⁶⁵ Dugdale, *Mon.* vi, 171.

⁶⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, 837.

⁶⁷ *Cal. Pat.* 1405–8, pp. 25, 442, 449; *ibid.* 1461–7, p. 354; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, i, g. 289 (13); *ibid.* g. 2863 (10); Feet of F. *Suss. East.* 35 Eliz.

⁶⁸ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxlix, 71.

⁶⁹ *Add. MS.* 39343, fol. 232.

⁷⁰ Horsfield, *Hist. of Suss.* i, 232; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

¹ A grant of 1562 refers to a 'capital

messuage or manor-house lying in Streate'.

² The sloped capping of the bays, shown in Grimm's drawing of 1785 (*Add. MS.* 5672, fol. 9) and in a lithograph of 1873 (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 126) has been replaced by a stone balustrade.

³ Illustrated in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 127.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

put in c. 1860 when the house was restored, and the panelling is also modern. The north wing contains some re-used early-17th-century panelling, and three good mid-18th-century fire-places. The front room in the south wing contains an elaborate panelled interior with lettered cornice; transferred from the room above.⁴ The panelling has the usual small mouldings of the late 16th and early 17th centuries, Ionic pilasters with strapwork decoration, and carved brackets. The other room had an internal porch, and the lettered panels have been re-arranged. Over the fire-place are two arched panels, each containing the three feathers and 'Ich Dien'⁵—probably referring to Henry, eldest son of James I, who died in 1612. The stone fire-place has a flat four-centred head with leaf ornament in the spandrels and roll- and ogee-mouldings. A room west of this 'Oak Room' has a similar fire-place.

The Gote, in the south of the parish not far from the junction of the road from Streat with that from Westmeston, has been much restored externally, but has a good 17th-century central chimney-stack with double fire-places on two floors, and exposed ceiling-beams.

The manor of STREAT was held before MANOR the Conquest by Lewin⁶ of King Edward the Confessor for 9 hides. In 1086 it was held of William de Warenne by Ralph de Chesney for 8 hides.⁷ It was subsequently held of the lords of the rape by the service of half a knight's fee.⁸ The 14 fees of William de Say, of which this subsequently formed part, were divided in 1439 between Edward Lenthall and John Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk,⁹ but by 1602 the overlord of the manor of Streat was Lord Bergavenny.¹⁰

The lands of Ralph de Chesney passed to his son Ralph and grandson John, who was living in 1147, but the three sons of John dying without issue Streat and his other manors came to his daughter Alice and by marriage to Geoffrey son of William de Say.¹¹ Alice died before 1199, and her husband in 1214, when his lands were inherited by their son Geoffrey, who died in 1230.¹² William de Say, his son, died seised of the manor in 1272,¹³ and was succeeded by his son William, who died in 1295.¹⁴ His son and grandson, both named Geoffrey, died respectively in 1322¹⁵ and 1359, the latter leaving an elder son William,¹⁶ but Streat was left to the younger son Thomas for life, with remainder to Geoffrey's



SAY. Quarterly or and gules.

heirs.¹⁷ Thomas was holding it in 1366,¹⁸ but his elder brother William died seised of it in 1375,¹⁹ and his infant son John in 1382, when Streat passed to John's sister Elizabeth,²⁰ who married first Sir John de Falvesley²¹ and secondly, about 1395, Sir William Heron.²² Meanwhile the Says had sublet the manor of Streat for a time, William de Say leaving it towards the end of the 13th century to Alexander de Cheyney. Alexander died about 1296,²³ and it passed to his son and grandson, both named William. William established his claim to the lease in 1329,²⁴ and died childless in 1334, his heir being his brother Robert,²⁵ but the manor presumably returned to the mesne lords as no more is heard of the lease.

Elizabeth de Say died childless in 1399 and Sir William Heron in 1404 and Streat passed to Elizabeth's cousin William, Lord Clinton, who was the grandson of Idonea, eldest sister of the last William de Say and a co-heir of the barony of Say.²⁶ He was holding the manor in 1412.²⁷ Subsequently, however, before 1430, the property came to Roger de Fiennes, grandson of Joan, youngest sister of William de Say.²⁸ Richard de Fiennes, son of Roger, married Joan,



DOBELL. Sable a doe passant between three bells argent.



LANE. Party saltirewise azure and gules with two saltires in chief and another in base and two molets in the flanks.

daughter and heir of Sir Thomas Dacre, and thus the manor became associated with Hurstpierpoint (q.v.)²⁹ with which it continued to descend until in 1607–8 it was conveyed to Walter Dobell of Falmer by Anne Goring and her son George, widow and son of the George Goring who had bought it from the Dacres.³⁰ In the Dobell family Streat manor remained for six generations. The first Walter died in 1625,³¹ the second in 1640, and the third in 1661, after which his son Barnham held it for a while.³² The fourth Walter Dobell, who was High Sheriff of Sussex from 1669–70, died in 1694 and was succeeded by his grandson William. William died in 1752,³³ and his daughter Mary then held the property. She was found insane in 1773 and died in 1796,³⁴ when her lands passed to her cousin Mary, daughter of Walter Dobell,³⁵ and

⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* iv, 93–5, with illustrations of former arrangement and details of the inscriptions. Also viii, 269 (note). There is said to be a hiding-place near the hall chimney.

⁵ The letters do not match.

⁶ Probably Earl Leofwin: *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 370.

⁷ *Ibid.* i, 441.

⁸ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv), 187.

⁹ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* x, p. 404; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 49 Edw. III, 1st nos. 2 (44); *Feud. Aids*, v, 161. In 1483 and 1602 it is said to have been held as of the manor of Ditchling: *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 2 Rich. III, 30; *ibid.* (Ser. 2), cclxxi, 156.

¹⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, no. 206.

¹¹ *Farrer, Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 313–14.

¹² *Cal. Inq. p.m.* i, 813.

¹³ *Feud. Aids*, v, 129–30; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* iii, 271.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* vi, 327; cf. *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 1287.

¹⁵ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* x, 517.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* It was held as half a fee.

¹⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxix, 643.

¹⁸ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 49 Edw. VIII, 1st nos. 2 (44).

¹⁹ *Ibid.* 6 Rich. II (67); *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vii, 62–3.

²⁰ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii), 2581.

²¹ *Ibid.* 2668; cf. *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 6 Hen. IV, no. 21.

²² *Cal. Inq. p.m.* iii, 335.

²³ *De Banco R.* 279, m. 203; *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii), 1826.

²⁴ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* vii, 614.

²⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 6 Hen. IV, 189 (21); *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iii, 315.

²⁶ *Feud. Aids*, vi, 525.

²⁷ *Cal. Close*, 1429–35, pp. 45, 63, 69; cf. *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vii, 63 note.

²⁸ In Buttinghill Hundred.

²⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxix, nos. 563–5; xx, 483.

³⁰ *Ibid.* xiv, 334.

³¹ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 101 et seq.

³² *Ibid.*, p. 103.

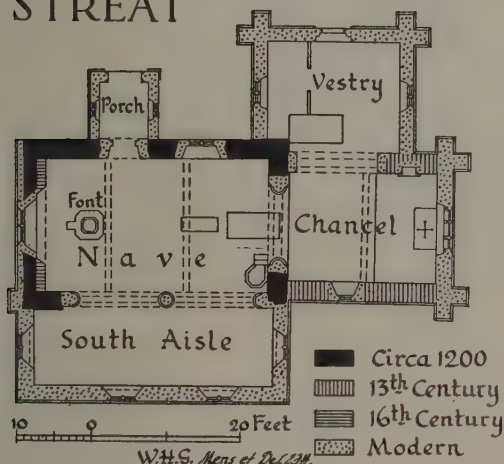
³³ *Ibid.* She had been commissioner for her cousin's estate since 1773; *ibid.* 104.

wife of Thomas Lane. She died in 1798, having survived her husband for 19 years. Their son Thomas was succeeded by his son Henry Thomas in 1805.³⁶ Henry Charles Lane, son of the latter, succeeded in 1834 and died in 1906, after which the manor was held for life by his widow, who subsequently married Mr. Henry Bothamley. At her death in 1931 the property reverted to Mr. Lane's nephew Mr. W. R. FitzHugh,³⁷ who sold it in 1934 to Miss Coke-Richards, the present owner,³⁸ but still retains such manorial rights as exist.³⁹

The custom of Borough English obtained in the manor.⁴⁰

The parish church is of unknown CHURCH dedication; it stands on rising ground in the centre of the parish. The walls are flint with sandstone dressings; the roofs are tiled. The

The PARISH CHURCH STREAT



nave is said to be of late 11th- or 12th-century work; Hussey⁴¹ in 1852 speaks of Norman north and south doorways, but all original features have disappeared; the walls are 2 ft. 9 in. thick except the west (3 ft. 10 in.). The chancel was probably rebuilt in the 13th century; Sharpe's drawing of 1802 shows a lancet in the south wall. The south aisle was added in 1854, and the east wall of the chancel (2 ft. 4 in. thick) seems to have been rebuilt at the same time. The vestry north of the chancel was built in 1882, replacing the brick burial chapel described by Hussey as probably coeval with Streat Place. The north porch is also modern, in the place of an earlier one, which Hussey mentions as having ancient woodwork filled in with masonry. Indeed, the church shows chiefly modern work—most of the walls being refaced or rebuilt and all windows and roofs being of 19th-century date.

The chancel (19 ft. 11 in. × 14 ft. 7 in.) has a rebuilt east wall, triple lancet window, and angle buttresses.

In the north wall is a trefoiled recess, newly cut, and west of it a large modern arch to the organ chamber and vestry. The south window is modern, possibly replacing a low-side window mentioned by Hussey, and the chancel arch also dates from the 19th century. The nave (30 ft. × 18 in.) has a modern two-light window and doorway in the north wall; but much of this wall is original, especially east of the modern porch. The opposite Norman wall has been replaced by a modern arcade of two bays and south aisle; in the drawings by Lambert (c. 1777)⁴² and Sharpe (1802)⁴³ there were, from west to east, a square window near the eaves, the blocked round-headed south door mentioned by Hussey, a trefoiled light with a label, and a large round-headed window, probably of 17th-century date. A similar trefoil in the west wall has been replaced by a modern two-light window. The west wall is of remarkable thickness, having been refaced internally in the 16th century and externally more recently, and the west window is therefore recessed. Over it is a shingled bell-cote with shingled pyramidal spire.

There are monumental iron slabs to Sarah Saunders (d. 1731); and to Martha Gott (d. 1732), Tho. Gott (d. 1733), and Robert Gott (d. 1714).⁴⁴

Of the three bells one dates from c. 1520,⁴⁵ the others are modern.

The plate includes a cup (1709 inscription), a paten (probably 1701 hall mark), another paten (1693 hall mark), an electro-plated flagon, cup, and paten.⁴⁶ The registers date from 1561. There is a yew in the churchyard, west of the church.

The advowson of the rectory of ADVOWSON Streat descended with the manor⁴⁷

until 1853, when it was conveyed by Henry Charles Lane to the Rev. William Anthony FitzHugh,⁴⁸ from whom it descended to his grandson Mr. W. R. FitzHugh. In 1909 the living was combined with that of Westmeston, and the presentation belongs alternately to Mr. FitzHugh (for Streat) and Col. Sir William Campion (for Westmeston). The latter presented in 1935. The rector resides at Streat.

Two chapels are mentioned at Streat in Domesday Book⁴⁹ but it is not known where the second one was situated.

William Cheale by will dated 1754 CHARITIES gave £100 to the poor of the parish.

The legacy was invested in the purchase of a rentcharge of £3 issuing out of Skinner's Farm, Streat, which is distributed by the rector and churchwardens in gifts to poor widows.

Miss Emily Fitzhugh by will proved 1 Aug. 1933 bequeathed £500, the income thereof to be applied (1) in maintaining in good repair and adding to the furniture and ornaments of Streat Church, (2) in maintaining Streat Churchyard, and (3) in contributing to the stipend of the curate of the united parishes of Streat and Westmeston. The interest thereon, amounting to £16 15s. 6d. per annum, is so applied by the churchwardens.

³⁶ Ibid. 104, 144-5; Recov. R. Mich. 34 Chas. II, ro. 259; Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 32 Geo. III; Recov. R. East. 36 Geo. III, m. 49. Courts were held by William Dobell in about 1740; Mary Dobell (his daughter) in 1757; Mary Lane (as guardian of her son), 1808; Henry Thomas Lane, 1823; guardians of Henry Charles Lane, 1835; Henry Charles Lane, 1853; Katharine Lane (afterwards Bothamley),

1906; Ct. Rolls in possession of Mr. W. R. FitzHugh.

³⁷ Mr. FitzHugh's grandfather married a Miss Lane.

³⁸ *Ex. inf.* the Rev. H. J. C. Torry.

³⁹ *Ex. inf.* Mr. W. R. FitzHugh.

⁴⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 180.

⁴¹ *Churches of Kent, Sussex, and Surrey*, 293.

⁴² Add. MS. 5677, fol. 51.

⁴³ In the Library of the Society of Antiquaries.

⁴⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxi, 147, for monuments.

⁴⁵ Ibid. xvi, 146; lvii, 49, 73.

⁴⁶ Ibid. liv, 247.

⁴⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 24 Edw. I, no. 26; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁴⁸ Add. MS. 39469, fol. 298.

⁴⁹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 441.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

WESTMESTON

Westmaestun (viii cent.); Westmestun, Westmyston (xi–xv cent.).

This parish is a long narrow strip, about a mile wide, running parallel with Ditchling and having Streat on its eastern side. It has an area of 2,095 acres. In 1934 a detached portion including Novington was transferred to East Chiltington, a parish which for many centuries had been a chapelry of Westmeston. The soil is loam, chalk, and clay, with a subsoil of chalk and ironstone, and the chief crops are wheat, oats, peas, beans, and turnips. The southern end of the parish is downland, rising abruptly to an altitude of 800 ft. on the eastern side of Ditchling Beacon, and running south to High Park Corner. At the foot of the Downs a road runs eastward to Lewes, the church and the few cottages of the village being situated at its junction with Underhill Lane, coming from the west, and the road from Ditchling, coming from the north-west. The altitude of this part of the parish is about 325 ft., and it slopes gradually down to 129 ft., rising again to 200 ft. at the northern end. At that end it is crossed by the road from Burgess Hill to Chailey, and the railway line from Haywards Heath to Lewes. There is a good deal of woodland in the north of the parish. There is a church mission room in the north of the parish, on the edge of Ditchling Common. Hailey Farm lies north of the village, on the boundary of Streat parish.

Westmeston Place stands on the west side of the road from Ditchling, a little north of the church. The house is of two stories with attics; the walls are chiefly flint, plastered in part, with tile-hanging; the roofs are tiled, with Georgian and later chimneys. The plan is L-shaped, with the ends to north and east, the west wing, with a westerly projection, containing the kitchen and offices. The south range contains the principal rooms and incorporates work of several periods, with a modern addition to the east. The west gable and most of the south wall date from *c.* 1500, and there was alteration in the mid 16th and early 17th centuries. This gable contains two windows lighting the parlour; to the south an early-16th-century two-light with four-centred heads, chamfered mullion, and ovolo label, and north of it a mid-16th-century three-light with filleted-roll mullion and ogee-moulded label. Over each is a two-light window, the south of mid-16th and the north of early-16th-century type. The attic window may be possibly of the late 15th century, having three pointed lights in a square head with hollow-chamfered mullions. The scullery projection on this side shows at first-floor level a remnant of 15th-century cinquefoil tracery in three slender panels reset as ornament.

The south front, disguised beneath plaster or modern brick, with tile-hanging, has a wide chimney projection. The porch west of this is of flint with sandstone dressings, not central with the entrance, and is of doubtful date, its openings, of 16th-century type, being possibly insertions. A chamfered four-centred doorway opens eastwards, at right angles to the main entrance, which is of similar form; the south wall has a four-centred light in a square head with ogee-moulded jambs, and in the west wall is an oblong chamfered window. The north exterior shows work of various

dates and projections in flint and modern brick, with a bay window to the hall. The kitchen range is in flint pebble with brick quoins and has tile-hanging on the north wall at first-floor level.

The early-16th-century hall was probably open to the roof, with a two-storied parlour block to the west; the main fire-place remains, though modernized, on the south wall. The first floor may have been inserted when the staircase was added, *c.* 1560–70; this shows an early type of Elizabethan newel—one square central post with a large finial at first-floor level; there is a turned balustrade above. The staircase curtails the bay window on the east side, but this six-light transomed window has square heads and filleted-roll mouldings, original only on the first floor, and does not seem much earlier. Joining the bay to the hall are contemporary moulded posts, the easternmost forming, on each floor, the jamb of a square opening spanning a passage. These suggest that the stairs led to a gallery along the north side of the hall. The square opening is not in line with the wall between the present dining- and sitting-rooms, but that above aligns with the thinner wall between two bedrooms. The easternmost of the bedrooms has early-17th-century panelling, and a typical Jacobean overmantel. The fire-place is apparently later. The parlour, now the lounge, is separated from the entrance passage by a screen, now open, with Elizabethan balusters. In the north-west angle of this room is a stone fire-place, probably contemporary with the staircase; it has a four-centred head and cavetto- and ogee-moulded jambs. The letters *I* and *M* are carved in shields in the spandrels, probably for John Michelborne.¹ There is an iron fire-back dated 1571. The attic stair is in a projection west of the bay window. There is a wattle-and-daub partition between the hall and parlour attics, with a four-centred opening in it. The kitchen wing shows a wide blocked fire-place, and some stop-chamfered ceiling beams.

Old Middleton, off the main road to Lewes, has a late-18th-century brick front to a probably 17th-century house.

There are a few early-17th-century cottages in the north of the parish, on the road from Wivelsfield Green to Streat. One, in a field near North America Farm, is timber-framed with later brick and tile-hanging and contains a central chimney-stack with wide lintelled fire-places, and exposed ceiling beams. Whitecote, opposite North America Farm, is probably contemporary, and has a wide fire-place and external stack.

Middleton Common Farm lies on the north side of the road from Burgess Hill to Chailey. It is a timber-framed house of two bays, with square panels, tiled roof, and a modern brick extension to the north. The central chimney is partly of 17th-century date, and serves a wide fire-place with bread oven.

The manor of *WESTMESTON* was *MANORS* held before the Conquest by Countess

Gueda for 12 hides. It was held of her directly by her villeins and there was no hall or demesne land. After the Conquest it was held of William de Warenne by Robert de Pierpoint.² The overlordship descended with the barony and rape in the same manner as that of Hurstpierpoint in Buttinghill Hundred (q.v.).

¹ Unfortunately this name covers the period 1538 to 1610.

² *V.C.H. Sussex*, i, 368, 441 b.



STREAT CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, *c.* 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



STREAT PLACE, 1785
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



WESTMESTON CHURCH, FROM THE WEST



WESTMESTON CHURCH: INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

In 1428 the manor was held as half a knight's fee.³ John de Warenne in 1312 received the grant of an annual fair at Westmeston at Martinmas (11 Nov.).⁴

Westmeston descended for some time with Hurstpierpoint (q.v.), the chief seat of the Pierpoint family, but round about 1284-5 was held in dower by Maud, widow of Robert de Pierpoint.⁵ She was still alive in 1296,⁶ but her son Simon appears to have been holding it about 1317.⁷ In 1412, when Sir William Bowet was lord of the manor, Westmeston was valued at £17.⁸ It came, with Hurstpierpoint, into the possession of George Goring, but in 1607-8 was sold by his widow Anne and her son George, to Walter Dobell of Falmer,⁹ who also acquired the neighbouring manor of Streat (q.v.). With Streat Westmeston subsequently descended. The present owner of both the properties is Miss Coke-Richards, but Mr. W. R. FitzHugh retains such manorial rights as still persist.¹⁰

In this manor the custom of Borough English obtained.¹¹

The manor of *MIDDLETON* is first mentioned at the end of the eleventh century, when the tithes from it were given by William de Warenne I to the priory of Lewes.¹² It was kept in the hands of the lord of the rape, and is recorded as a demesne manor of the Earls of Warenne in 1296 and 1327.¹³ It passed with the honor of Lewes to the Earls of Arundel, and descended with them until the death of Thomas, Earl of Arundel, in 1415.¹⁴ On the division of his property Middleton was assigned to the Duchess of Norfolk¹⁵ and followed the subdivisions of that third of the honor of Lewes (q.v.), being eventually held in moieties by the Earls of Derby and the Dukes of Norfolk. Henry, Earl of Derby, in 1576 conveyed his moiety to Sir John Jeffrey, chief baron of the Exchequer, who died in 1578 holding it by fealty and rent of 2d.¹⁶ His daughter and heir Elizabeth married Edward, Lord Montagu,¹⁷ and their daughter Elizabeth married Robert, Earl of Lindsey, Great Constable and High Chamberlain of England, who received a conveyance of this moiety of Middleton from his father-in-law in 1634.¹⁸ In the same year, however, Robert, Earl of Lindsey, and Elizabeth and their son Sir Montagu Bartie, Lord Willoughby, sold the property to Nicholas Chaloner of Chiltoning for £300.¹⁹ In 1637 Nicholas and his son sold it to William Michelborne of Stanmer for £350,²⁰ and it was sold by Edward Michelborne, his youngest son, to Walter Dobell in 1666-7.²¹ John Michelborne had conveyed the estate to John Juxon in 1653, but this claim was acquired by Walter Dobell in 1665.²² The other half of Middleton having been purchased from Thomas, Earl of Arundel, by Dobell's great-

grandfather in 1611,²³ the whole manor was once more in the same hands, and it has descended with the manors of Westmeston and Streat²⁴ (q.v.) to Mr. W. R. FitzHugh,²⁵ who sold the house to Miss R. Coke-Richards.

HAILEY PARK in Middleton [Haylly (xv cent.); Heyghley, Haileigh (xvi cent.)] is first mentioned as a Park between 1442 and 1450²⁶ when Stephen Wybbyshay was the Duke of Norfolk's keeper. It descended with the manor of Middleton, and was still inclosed in 1634.²⁷ It is now a farm.

STANTONS (historically part of Westmeston, but transferred in 1934 to East Chiltoning) originated in the quarter knight's fee held in the 13th century by John de Staunton of Simon de Pierpoint²⁸ lord of Westmeston. It was possibly identical with the 3 hides and 3 virgates in Westmeston held by a certain knight of Robert de Pierpoint in 1086.²⁹ The mesne lordship remained with the Pierpoints and the Dacres, but in the 15th century Stantons was held of their manor of Hurstpierpoint.³⁰ The undertenancy appears to have lapsed and in 1428 this $\frac{1}{4}$ fee was held by the heirs of Michael de Poyning.³¹ His son Sir Richard died seised of lands in Westmeston in 1387, and his widow held in dower what was described as a 'manor of Westmeston', until 1394.³² From Robert their son, who died in 1446, Stantons passed to his grand-daughter Eleanor, wife of Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland,³³ and in 1484 descended to her son Henry.³⁴ Henry, Earl of Northumberland, grandson of the latter, sold the manor in 1531 to Sir Thomas Neville,³⁵ who together with Robert Southwell conveyed it in 1539 to John Michelborne.³⁶ The manor, known as Westmeston *alias* Stantons, remained in the Michelborne family until 1644,³⁷ when William Michelborne, grandson of the purchaser, sold it to John Juxon.³⁸ Sir William Juxon, son of John, sold it in 1665 to Walter Dobell,³⁹ after which it descended with the main manor of Westmeston⁴⁰ and presumably became merged in it.



MICHELBORNE. Or a cross between four eagles sable.

The parish church of *ST. MARTIN CHURCH* stands on a slight eminence off the Lewes-

Ditchling road. The walls are flint, plastered in part, with sandstone dressings; the roofs have tiles on the north and chiefly Horsham slates on the south. The nave was built soon after 1100, and the original north doorway remains. It is probable that the chancel was reconstructed in the 13th century, and

³ *Feud. Aids*, v, 161.

⁴ *Cal. Chart.* 1300-26, p. 194.

⁵ *Feud. Aids*, v, 130.

⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 51.

⁷ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii,

333.

⁸ *Feud. Aids*, vi, 525.

⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxix, nos. 563-5.

¹⁰ *Ex. inf.* Mr. W. R. FitzHugh.

¹¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 180.

¹² *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii),

11.

¹³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 52, 178.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* xxiii, 2331, 2434; *Cal. Pat.*

1396-9, pp. 220, 458.

¹⁵ *Early Chan. Proc.* 15 (128); *Suss.*

Rec. Soc. xxiii, 3212, 3269; *Ibid.* xiv, 120;

Suss. Arch. Coll. lvi, 90.

¹⁶ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 306; *Inq.*

(*ibid.* iii), no. 88.

¹⁷ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), v, 342.

¹⁸ *Add. Chart.* 29655.

¹⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 306; xxix, 612.

²⁰ *Ibid.* 614. Cf. *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. 2),

bde. 422, no. 10.

²¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxix, 609, 619, 620;

Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 264-5.

²² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxix, 610; xx, 306,

484.

²³ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 96-102.

²⁴ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 422.

²⁵ If any manorial rights still remain they are held by Mr. W. R. FitzHugh; *ex inf.* Mr. FitzHugh.

²⁶ *E. Chan. Proc.* 15 (128). Haylye

Wood is mentioned in 1275: *Rot. Hund.*

(*Rec. Com.*), ii, 201.

²⁷ *Add. Ch.* 29655.

²⁸ *Feud. Aids*, v, 161.

²⁹ *V.C.H. Sussex*, i, 441 b.

³⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 1 Rich. III, no. 26.

³¹ *Feud. Aids*, v, 161.

³² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 11 Rich. II, no. 43;

ibid. 17 Rich. II, no. 46.

³³ *Ibid.* 25 Hen. VI, no. 24.

³⁴ *Ibid.* 2 Rich. III, no. 26.

³⁵ *Feet of F. Suss. Trin.* 23 Hen. VIII.

³⁶ *Ibid.* East. 31 Hen. VIII; *Suss. Rec.*

Soc. xxix, 524.

³⁷ *Ibid.* 525-8, 533; *Add. MS.* 39381,

fol. 98.

³⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxix, 547.

³⁹ *Ibid.* 551; *Recov. R. East.* 1659,

ro. 89.

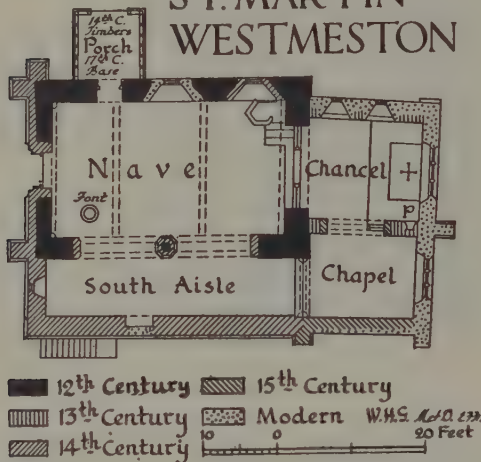
⁴⁰ *Ibid.* Trin. 26 Chas. II, ro. 55; *East.*

12 Anne, ro. 125; *East.* 36 Geo. III, ro. 49.

its east and north walls were again rebuilt, from the base, in the 19th century. The arcade of the south aisle dates to the early 14th century, and in the last years of that century the whole west wall was refaced, and the bell-cote probably reconstructed. The south chapel was added c. 1500, but its east wall was rebuilt with that of the chancel in the 19th century. The north porch incorporates parts of the original 14th-century structure.

The chancel (15 ft. 6 in. × 13 ft. 6 in.) has a rebuilt east wall with modern three-light window. The north wall is refaced, with two new lancet windows, but the south wall is of 13th-century date, and has a trefoil-headed piscina with soffit cusps and roll mouldings to its outer order; the sunk circular drain remains. West

PARISH CHURCH of ST. MARTIN WESTMESTON



of it is a late-15th-century arch to the south chapel: it is of two orders, the outer chamfered with a plain triangular stop, the inner hollow-chamfered and carried on corbels, which are polygonal in form. The abacus is chamfered with ogee under-surface, and the bell and astragal roll-moulded. The chancel arch was recut in recent years; it was of 12th-century date.

The south chapel (14 ft. × 11 ft.) was added c. 1500, but the east wall has been rebuilt from the base, and has a modern three-light window; it has a gabled roof. The south wall has been refaced. The west arch into the south aisle resembles the north arch into the chancel, but there are squared abaci to the corbels, which are larger and cruder, the polygonal stem being straight instead of curved; the springing is slightly lower to the north.

The nave (31 ft. 5 in. × 18 ft. 2 in.) has a 12th-century north wall, with, towards the east, an early-14th-century trefoil-headed window, probably inserted with the south arcade; the restored segmental-pointed rear-arch is similar to those in the north wall of the chancel. The western window is a modern copy, and does not occur in Sharpe's drawing.⁴¹ West again is the north doorway; it has a round chamfered head and projecting imposts, with roughly chamfered under-side, and restored flat-headed rear-arch. The south arcade and aisle date from c. 1330. The arcade is of

two bays with obtuse-pointed arches of two chamfered orders; the outer order has its chamfer continuous to east and west, but the inner is there carried on corbels.

The pier is octagonal with scroll-moulded abacus, roll astragal, and chamfered base. The corbels are contemporary, but of smaller size and more delicate mouldings.

The west wall of the nave was refaced at some period in the late 14th century, and right-angled buttresses were added at the north-west angle of the nave, and a similar buttress in two stages bonded in to nave and aisle on the west. These buttresses have a hollow-chamfered plinth which continues along the west wall almost to the south-west angle of the aisle.⁴² It turns down on either side of the contemporary west doorway. This has an equilateral arch in two orders, the outer hollow-chamfered, with a spear-shaped stop, the inner wave-moulded and worn; the hood has a straight chamfer and returned ends; there is a restored flat-headed rear-arch and original chamfered jambs with triangular stops. Above it is a window of similar date, with two ogee-trefoiled lights with ogee frame and a label of similar profile to that of the doorway; there is a flat rear-arch. North of the window the wall is plastered externally, but appears to resemble in material the rest of the west wall—namely well knapped flint.

The south aisle (33 ft. 6 in. × 7 ft. 7 in.) is 14th-century, and the nave roof continues over it. The south wall is old and leans outwards but modern brick cellarge and steps have been built underneath, with a new flint plinth. The old part is plastered and separated from the wall of the chapel by a low buttress. In the west bay is a 14th-century south doorway with flat chamfered rear-arch, blocked externally. The vestry is screened off west of it. The west wall, except for the modern south-west angle, is part of the later 14th-century rebuild, and has a trefoiled ogee window with triangular rear-arch.

The north porch has a 16th- or early-17th-century brick base on which is re-used 14th-century timbering on the north side, an obtuse-pointed arch, and trefoiled barge board. The bell-cote to west is probably repaired late-14th-century work, with shingled sides and pyramidal cap. There are louvre openings to north and south. The roofs: there are two old ties, slightly chamfered, in the nave, and timbering strengthening the bell-cote at the west wall. The floors are tiled—there are three steps and a low wall at the chancel arch and one step at the altar rail.

The font is of 12th-century chalice form. The pulpit dates to the later 17th century. There are no signs anywhere in the church of the mural paintings discovered in 1862. These were: east wall of nave, Agnus Dei, 12th century; north side, Scourging and Magi, 12th century; below, part of a 13th-century subject. South side: Descent from the Cross, Christ delivering the key to St. Peter and book to St. Paul—12th century. Below, Crucifixion—13th century. Soffit of chancel arch—Signs of the Zodiac, and on a panel below—Demon threatening a soul in a shroud. North wall of nave—? Betrayal, St. Peter cutting off the ear of Malchus, Martyrdom of St. Vincent, part ? of Doom—all 12th century.⁴³

There is a War Memorial of 1914–18 on the south wall of the nave. There are three bells, one dated 1712, by Samuel Knight of London, and the others

⁴¹ See Collection in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries; also Lambert's drawing, Add. MS. 5677, fol. 51.

⁴² The break is probably due to a modern disturbance when the cellar steps were built.

⁴³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 1–19 (illustrated); xliii, 246.

1636, by Bryan Eldridge of Chertsey.⁴⁴ The plate includes a cup and paten with 1718 hall-marks, and a flagon with 1746 hall-mark.⁴⁵

The registers date from 1587.

The advowson of the rectory of *ADWOWSON* Westmeston appears in the possession of Simon de Pierpoint in 1329 and 1331.⁴⁶ It descended with the manor until the beginning of the 19th century,⁴⁷ and was held in 1805 by

Thomas Lane.⁴⁸ Before 1809, however, it had been acquired by William Campion of Danny, and has since descended in that family.⁴⁹ The living was united with that of Streat in 1909, presentation being made alternately by the two patrons. Col. Sir William Campion, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., presented in 1935.

The chapelry of East Chilington (q.v.) was attached to Westmeston until 1909, when it was transferred to Plumpton.

WIVELSFIELD

Wifelesfeld (viii cent.); Wiewelesfeld (xi cent.); Wyvellesfeld (xiii cent.).

Wivelsfield¹ is a parish in the Weald with an area of 2,541 acres. In 1934 parts of it were transferred to the urban districts of Cuckfield and Burgess Hill. The soil is clay and mixed sand; the subsoil clay and sandstone. Carnation-growing is an industry of the parish. The elevation of the parish is highest in the north, where it reaches 280 ft.; the centre of the parish is little over 100 ft., but on the eastern side it rises at various points to 200 ft. The road from Ditchling to Haywards Heath runs north up the middle of the parish, with Great Ote Hall and Lunces Hall (a modern house) to the west of it. More House is on the roadside to the east, and opposite it a lane turns off to the church. Shortly before reaching Moat House and More House a road branches off to the east, with Ote Hall Congregational Chapel in the angle, leading to Wivelsfield Green and Chailey North Common. A little way along this road Berth Lane (retaining the Domesday name) turns north and eventually leads into the Scaynes Hill road. In Wivelsfield Green lanes branch in many directions. South of it a portion of the parish projects south between Westmeston and Streat parishes, and includes Coldharbour and Lashmar Wood. The main road, after passing More House, continues past Lunces Common and rises again towards Haywards Heath. A little north of Lunces Common a lane turns north-east from the main road leading to Haywards Heath and joins another main road running east from Haywards Heath to Scaynes Hill. Franklyn's is situated along this road, to the east of the Asylum, and formerly marked the extreme north of the parish, but it is now in Cuckfield.

A stream coming from the north-west portion of Ditchling Common winds circuitously through the west side of the parish, in an S shape, round Great Ote Hall Wood and Lunces Hall. Another twisting stream runs down the eastern boundary of the parish. The western edge of the parish runs parallel to the railway line, Wivelsfield station being outside the parish. Besides Ote Hall Congregational Chapel, erected in 1778 by the Countess of Huntingdon, who lived at Ote Hall, where a room was fitted up as a chapel, there is a Baptist Chapel, built in 1780.

There are a few old houses near the church. The Post Office, east of it, has an external chimney-stack

of the late 16th century; and a three-bayed brick and tiled house farther east has a stepped stack of slightly earlier type, serving a wide oak-lintelled fire-place.

Great Ote Hall,² standing in extensive grounds, is of two stories with attics; the walls are half-timbered on sandstone plinths or later brick renewals, and there are three massive brick chimney-stacks; the roofs are covered with Horsham slates. It is of T-shaped plan, with a modern south projection in similar style; the stem of the T is probably of c. 1550, while the head or east wing is dated 1600, and shows a symmetrical front. Of the older part, the south front has been greatly repaired, and a modern entrance annexe built, containing a 16th-century door; this and some of the overmantels and panelling were imported from destroyed houses at Guildford and Godalming. The original entrance was farther west, opposite another doorway in the north wall.

The north front has repaired half-timber work, including an oriel on the first floor, and a modern porch; the attic gables are original, with flatly moulded bargeboards and a slim turned pendant above the oriel. At the west are five chimney shafts set diagonally on a brick plinth and gable; they have cap and base fillets and are possibly renewals of the second period. In the brickwork at first-floor level is a window removed from the southern corner.³ A sandstone plinth with rounded top extends from the junction with the modern wing and along the north front;⁴ it ends against the east wing, on the west wall of which there is a higher plinth with narrower chamfer. Another bold brick chimney-stack projects off the west wall here, with three similar shafts, without base fillets. South of this projection is a window of two lights. The north front of the east wing was plastered over until after 1867,⁵ it has a wide gable with original flatly carved barge-board and turned pendant.

The east front has a central porch and on either side a bay of shallower projection: all three are carried up into gables at attic level. Many of the studs have been renewed. In the porch a window replaces the round-headed doorway seen in Grimm's drawing of c. 1780;⁶ the window above is modern, as is the small gable in which has been inserted an original pediment with the initials *T.M.* and date 1600.⁷ The flanking bays are similarly of three stories. The north bay has new and wider windows throughout; in the south bay an original five-light remains in the attic. Above the attic windows

half-timbered house.

⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xix, 61; E. P. Shirley's drawing of 1841.

⁶ MS. 5672, fol. 37. Also in E. B. Lamb: *Studies of Ancient Domestic Architecture* (1846).

⁷ Evidence was found that this was its original position: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxiv, 256.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* xvi, 228.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* liv, 247.

⁴⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 1779; De Banco R. 286, m. 146 d.

⁴⁷ *Cal. Pat. Ed. VI*, v, 9; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 83; xxix, 572, 598; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁴⁸ Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 45 Geo. III.

⁴⁹ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.); Feet of F. Suss. Trin. 2 Geo. IV; Add. MS. 39469,

fol. 335.

¹ Cf. Capt. F. W. T. Attree, 'Wivelsfield', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 1-60.

² For plans, made in 1885, see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxiv, 255.

³ *Ibid.* 257.

⁴ The plinth turns down at the join of the half-timber with the above west chimney-stack and possibly suggests that the latter was an earlier addition to the

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the beam is original in every case, and moulded, with stop-chamfers. A third large chimney-stack, projecting south, carries four shafts like the others, but with the base fillets carried round spirally.

Some of the gable pendants are original, others copies. Those of the east wing are smaller, more solid and less undercut than that of the 16th-century portion. The lozenge and fleur-de-lis occurs on both types, but the Jacobean pendants have dentils and the monogram *JH*.⁸ The moulded brackets are original.

In the hall can be seen a great post which continues up to attic level. The staircase, moved westwards from opposite the porch in the east wing,⁹ is a fine example of c. 1600, with continuous newels and others with square turned finials and pendants, turned balusters, and roll-moulded handrail. The present dining-room was the kitchen in the first period of the house; in the west wall is a wide fire-place with oak lintel and bread oven; one of the moulded beams is original. The drawing-room ('Old Hall')¹⁰ occupies the north half of the east wing and includes the former entrance porch; the moulded stone fire-place, with flat four-centred arch, has an imported overmantel with caryatid figures; some of the woodwork is original, notably a beam with carved stop-chamfers. The rest of this wing is occupied by the 'Old Kitchen'; in the south wall is a wide lintelled fire-place flanked by cupboards. The flooring consists of elm baulks in both periods of the house. Over the dining-room is the so-called 'Queen Elizabeth's Room', with an oriel; the fire-place is chamfered four-centred of a somewhat earlier type, but there are re-used Jacobean panels above; a fine beam terminates with *H* leaf and daisy carvings. The 'Withdrawing-room' above the drawing-room has much of its original panelling and a fire-place with typical Jacobean composite panels divided by flutings. The 'State Bedroom' over the 'Old Kitchen' has a fire-place like that in the drawing-room, and the over-mantel has three scalloped arches separated by fluted pilasters, and ANNO *DM* 1609, for Thomas and Mary Godman; east of it is an original door.¹¹

Antye lies in a lane off the road from Haywards Heath to Keymer. The house is of two stories; the walls are timber-framed in wide panels. It was built in the late 16th century and contains a two-bayed hall with a parlour at either end. The hall has a fine moulded beam, with a later partition under, and shares a central chimney-stack with the northern parlour; both have wide oak-lintelled fire-places, with a coved cornice over the hall one, and the lower parlour has another wide fire-place in the west wall. The timber-framing is visible internally, and there are chamfered ceiling-beams exposed on both floors. The two eastern porches are apparently modern, but over one is said to be a board with 1626 studded in nails. Theobalds, farther south, has a doorway similarly dated 1627, but the house chiefly shows 18th-century brick and a roof of Horsham slates. There are traces of a moat, and stone foundations have been discovered, indicating a larger house originally.¹²

⁸ They are probably importations from elsewhere.

⁹ The framing of the original well-hole was found in the floor: *S.A.C.* xxxiv, 255-7.

¹⁰ Titles in Nevill's plans: *ibid.* 255. But he believed the east front to have been the earlier part.

¹¹ This room was provided with a,

presumably contemporary, latrine recess: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxiv, 257.

¹² F. W. T. Attree in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 57.

¹³ Add. MS. 5672, fol. 26.

¹⁴ There used to be a board with the date 1551 and inscription. See Attree, *loc. cit.*, p. 50.

¹⁵ See *ibid.* 56. This room has some

More Place is a moated site opposite the road to the church. The moat is especially good on the south and west and has a stone revetment in part. Above are walls in 16th-century brick, with a curved brick or sandstone coping; a square garden turret is probably contemporary, but is concealed by plaster. The house shows an L-shaped frontage to the road, with tile-hanging over plastered brick; this part appears to have changed little since Grimm's drawing of 1780,¹³ except for the transference of the entrance from the west wing, near the junction, to the centre of the front facing the road. The west wing is said to have been added in 1769-80. The south block is chiefly modernized internally, probably after a fire in the 18th century, and its floors are at a different level from those of the older work in the kitchens east of it; the south room shows inserted Elizabethan panelling in the mantelpiece, and a stop-chamfered beam. A loggia has been added at the south or garden end, and a 1595 date-stone from the cellar has been inserted in a modern office farther east.¹⁴ The kitchen seems of about 1600 with a wide fire-place on the east wall; a bread oven, the subject of a lurid legend,¹⁵ shows in a small room off it on the south-east. There are exposed stop-chamfered ceiling-beams in the kitchen and the room above it. Farther east again is a contemporary or older block, containing a single-storied hall of two bays with a wide oak-lintelled fire-place on the outside wall, and at the north end a two-storied gabled wing projecting east. This wing is of three bays with thin bricks as filling between structural angle posts, tile-hanging above, and a chamfered sandstone plinth at the west end.

Pepper Hall, north of the road to Wivelsfield Green, is an early-17th-century house with three bays of two stories, and an attic over the south or parlour bay, which is roofed transversely. The timber-framing in square panels is exposed, partly brick-filled, over later brick. The fine central chimney-stack serves wide oak-lintelled fire-places to the hall and parlour, the latter having sandstone jambs. A moulded beam divides the hall into two bays.

Lockstrood, off the east side of the Ditchling road, is a small late-16th-century building of two bays with two stories and attics; there is an outshot to the south, probably added in the 18th century when the east end wall was rebuilt in brick, also the ground floor throughout. The original timber-framing in wide panels is exposed at first-floor level. An external chimney stack at the west end serves a wide lintelled fire-place on each floor.

There has never been a manor of Wivelsfield. Berth, now a farm in this parish, in 1086 was an estate of 1½ hides belonging to William de Warenne, and was probably part of the manor of Hurstpierpoint (q.v.).¹⁶ Other lands in Wivelsfield are later found included in the manors of Ditchling¹⁷ and Plumpton.¹⁸

The manor of OTEHALL [Ottehale (xiii and xiv cent.); Oatehole, Othale (xvi cent.)] was held in the 16th century of the manor of Withdean-Cayliffe¹⁹ by

old brick, and a fluted ogee plinth at the south-west angle, perhaps re-used material from Lewes Priory.

¹⁶ *V.C.H. Sussex*, i, 444.

¹⁷ *Book of John Rouve* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 43, 48.

¹⁸ *Cal. Pat.* 1247-58, p. 313.

¹⁹ In Dean Hundred.



WIVELSFIELD: GREAT OTE HALL



WIVELSFIELD: PEPPER HALL



WIVELSFIELD CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

fealty and rent of 15s.²⁰ In the 13th century the estate was held by Richard de Ottehale, who was succeeded by his daughter Maud; and her son Richard de la Donne at her request granted Otehall to his brother John,²¹ whose descendants were probably known as de Ottehale. John de Ottehale senior and junior occur in 1292,²² and a John de Ottehale in 1348 granted 'Ottehaleslond' to William de Ottehale.²³ Richard de Ottehale appears in 1370, and Thomas was lord of the manor in 1377 and 1381.²⁴ Soon after that date it came into the possession of Richard Kentish, who held courts there from 1395 to 1419.²⁵ It subsequently passed to the Attree family, John Attree's first court being held in February 1438,²⁶ and remained with his descendants for almost a century. There were, however, other claimants, perhaps representatives of a certain Walter de Otehale who is given as the former owner, and the dispute dragged on from 1439 to 1502, when William and Thomas Attree at length obtained a settlement with William and Richard Bust, by which the former retained the lands in Wivelsfield, Clayton, and Chilton, and the latter received those in other parishes.²⁷ William Attree was succeeded by his son Thomas sometime before 1523,²⁸ and about this time the manor was alienated for a period to John Michell; he died in 1525 leaving it to his son John, who died in possession of it in 1546.²⁹ In the meantime Thomas Attree in 1537 conveyed Otehall to Thomas Godman, who was perhaps his son-in-law;³⁰ and John and Edmund Michell quitclaimed their rights to him in 1541.³¹ Thomas Godman died in 1559 and the manor was held successively by his sons Richard, who died in 1562, and Thomas, who was succeeded by his son Thomas in 1612. Edward Godman, son of the latter, followed his father in 1624, but on the death of his son John in 1718 the male line became extinct, and Otehall was bequeathed to William Shirley, son of John's daughter Elizabeth.³² He became Governor of the Bahamas,³³ and on account of his prolonged absences conveyed the manor to Francis Warden in 1749 in trust for his family.³⁴ The latter by his will in 1785 returned Otehall to the third son Thomas Shirley, then Governor of the Leeward Islands,³⁵ who later became a baronet and died in 1800.³⁶ His son Sir William Warden Shirley died unmarried in 1816, having sold the manor in 1803 to William Tanner of Moor-



GODMAN. *Party ermine and erminees a chief indented or with a lion passant vert therein.*

house, who died in 1831.³⁷ His son William lived until 1870,³⁸ but, as a Miss Tanner was the owner of Otehall in 1867,³⁹ he evidently made over the property to his youngest daughter Jane Tanner, who held the manor until her death in 1881, after which it was sold to Major-Gen. Richard Temple Godman.⁴⁰ After his death in 1912 the house was bought by Mr. Herbert Woods, who sold it in 1923 to Mr. Ernest J. Enthoven. He died in 1936 and his son Mr. Roderick Eustace Enthoven sold Otehall to the Godman trustees, so that the manor is again held by the Godman family.⁴¹

The manor of *FRANKLYNS* or *FRANKLANDS* was perhaps connected with Dyrild Fraunkeleyn who is mentioned in the district in 1332.⁴² Nothing is known of its history until 1529, when it is said to have been owned by Sir Edward Bray.⁴³ It was held of the manor of Streat by suit of court and yearly rent of 4d.⁴⁴

In 1540 it was sold by John son of Richard Mascall of Wivelsfield⁴⁵ to Edmund Pope of Little Horsted, who died in 1550, leaving it to his son Nicholas. The latter was still holding Franklyns in 1592,⁴⁶ but was succeeded by his son Ralph before 1605.⁴⁷ Sackville Pope, son of the latter, sold the manor in 1626 to William Mongre, who conveyed it nine years later to Thomas Luxford,⁴⁸ and he sold it, in 1655, to Thomas Woodyer.⁴⁹ His son succeeded in 1711 and died in 1735 leaving Franklyns to his nephew the Rev. John Woodyer, rector of Lasham, who sold it to Francis Warden in 1754.⁵⁰ The latter dying thirty years later bequeathed the manor to Col. Francis Warden Sergison, who sold it sometime after 1790 to Anthony Tanner.⁵¹ After the death of the latter in 1832 it was sold by trustees.⁵² During the next fifty years the property was split up and the manorial rights lapsed.

The manor of *LUNCES*, of which the name survives in Lunce's Common, was held of the manor of Withean Cayliffe for 15s. rent.⁵³ About 1296 Alice daughter and heir of Osbert le Luns granted certain of her villeins with their land and common of pasture to her neighbour John de Ottehale.⁵⁴ In 1478 Richard att Dene held 'Loncesland', and in 1547 Richard Adeane or Warren, doubtless his descendant, owned a house called Lunces, which passed to his widow Agnes in 1550. She made her will in 1557, and of her three sons Richard, John, and Henry, John seems to have inherited Lunces. He died in 1580



POPE. *Or two cheverons gules and a quarter gules with a molet or therein.*

²⁰ *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 189; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxli, 236.

²¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 32 (Charter in poss. of W. T. Neve).

²² Feet of F. *Suss.* Trin, 20 Edw. I.

²³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 33.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, 33, 34.

²⁵ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 35.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 33. It is conjectured here that Walter de Otehale's daughter Joan married John Attree. Possibly the Busts were descendants of Richard Kentish.

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)* 265; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 332; xiv, 710.

³⁰ *Comber, op. cit.* 221.

³¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 33.

³² *Comber, op. cit.* 224. *Chan. Inq.*

p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxli, 236; Feet of F. *Suss.* Mich. 6 Chas. I; *Recov. R. East.* 4 Geo. I, ro. 74.

³³ Seven of his children were born at Wivelsfield, but most of them died in America; Gen. Shirley himself died at Boston, 1771: *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 264.

³⁴ *Recov. R. Hil.* 23 Geo. II, ro. 258; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xix, 66.

³⁵ Cal. Deeds C, Lewes, 716.

³⁶ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

³⁷ Add. MS. 39499, fol. 177; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xix, 66; *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 305.

³⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xix, 66.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* xxxv, 39.

⁴¹ Information kindly furnished by Herbert Woods, Esq.

⁴² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 293.

⁴³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 26; cf. *Horsfield, Sussex*, i, 228.

⁴⁴ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 129.

⁴⁵ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 251.

⁴⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 127.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* 198; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 26.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* xix, 174; *Recov. R. Mich.* 11 Chas. I, ro. 31.

⁴⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 174.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* East. 27 Geo. II; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 28.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*; Add. MS. 5683, fol. 129.

⁵² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvi, 74; cf. xxxv, 28.

⁵³ *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 190.

⁵⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 29. A John Lons or Lonys occurs in Wivelsfield in 1332 and 1348: *ibid.*; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 294.

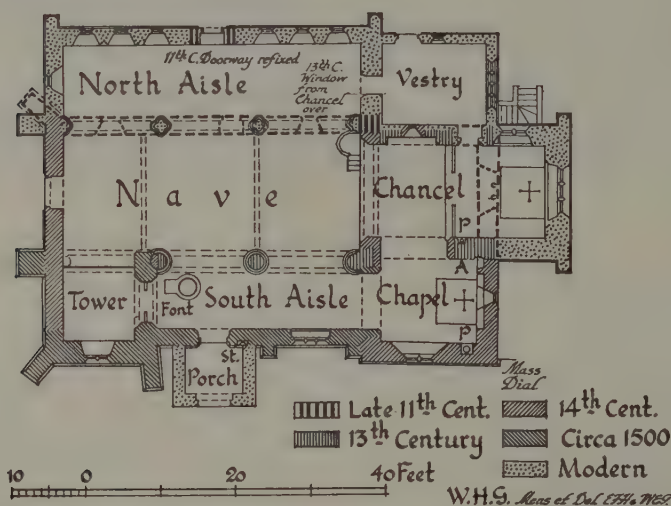
A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

leaving the property to his younger son William, from whom it passed to his brother Robert in 1597. In 1624 Robert's son Edmund succeeded and in 1634 bequeathed his 'manor called Lunces' to his daughter Katharine, who married John Rowe of Hurstpierpoint.⁵⁵ Their daughter Katharine, the wife of Henry Rose, conveyed it in 1703 to Joseph Farncombe.⁵⁶ Several owners of the same name seem then to have held it in succession, for in 1730 Joseph Farncombe exchanged the pew belonging to Lunces in Wivelsfield church for that pertaining to Otehall; another Joseph died in 1775; and on the death of his son Joseph in 1812 the 'manor' was sold, apparently to Anthony Tanner, who conveyed it in 1833 to the

sent south aisle dates to the same period. The porch and north aisle were built in 1869. A vestry has recently been added on the north side of the chancel, and the south chapel cleared of the organ.

The chancel (22 ft. 1 in. × 12 ft. 6 in.) has a modern east wall and window. The north wall is modern as far as the west jamb of its east window; farther west it is refaced, and has a 14th-century window of three trefoiled ogee lights with segmental rear-arches. Under this, but not central, is a more acute segmental-pointed rear-arch and small chamfered oblong window. This may be a 13th-century tomb recess, with window inserted later. The south wall is modern as far as a crack 6 ft. 6 in. from the east angle. The 13th-century

PARISH CHURCH of ST. PETER & ST. JOHN the BAPTIST WIVELSFIELD



Rev. Charles Tufnell. Charles Cheeseman purchased it from Mr. Tufnell but again sold it about 1867 to William Bacon, who was the owner in 1887.⁵⁷

The parish church of *ST. PETER CHURCH AND ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST* stands in a lane off the main Hayward's Heath-Ditchling road. The walls are of sandstone rubble and ashlar, with dressings of the same material, the south chapel is plastered; the roofs are tiled, except for the tower which has a shingled cap. Of the original late-11th-century church, only the north door from the nave remains, built into the modern north aisle. The chancel dates from the early 13th century but was lengthened in 1869, and its north wall refaced, while the original east window was moved to the north aisle.⁵⁸ A south aisle was added about the same time in the 13th century, and two bays remain of this arcade. The south chapel is an addition of c. 1300. In the 14th century the nave was lengthened by a west bay, and the previous west respond was enlarged into a second cylindrical pier. The latter was strengthened c. 1500 to support the south-west tower, and the pre-

piscina has a restored pointed head, drain, and shelf. West of it is a 14th-century chamfered arch leading to the south chapel: it was probably retooled in the 17th century, having boasted bordered masonry. The chancel arch has similar tooling, and is obtuse-pointed, of two chamfered orders; it may be re-tooled 14th-century work.

The south chapel (12 ft. 9 in. × 11 ft. 6 in.) dates from c. 1300. Its east wall⁵⁹ is remarkable, having a small chamfered lancet above, not quite central and splayed to an equilateral rear-arch, and a wide altar recess below, with obtuse-pointed arch and traces of black and white lozenge pattern above a shelf at the springing line. North of it is an aumbrey with pointed trefoil rebated head. The north wall is cut back to give room for this aumbrey, which may be a later insertion. Farther west is the arch giving access to the chancel. The south wall has a chamfered plinth externally; to the east is a piscina with trefoil head similar to the aumbrey, circular drain, and shelf. The south window, west of the piscina, is a restored two-light, with pointed trefoil heads and segmental-pointed rear-arch. Sharpe's

⁵⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 29; *Comber. Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)* 2; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 284.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*; *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 234.
⁵⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 29.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.* xxii, 50 (illustrated).

⁵⁹ There is a mass dial on a quoin of this wall.

drawing (1805)⁶⁰ gives the window as it is now, but Grimm's (1787)⁶¹ shows a pierced tympanum. The west wall has a chamfered arch the width of the south aisle and probably 15th-century, although it has boasted tooling similar to the chancel arches. There is a lancet looking over the south aisle—it is south of central to obtain greater length, and was shortened when the aisle was heightened.

The nave (40 ft. × 15 ft. 9 in.) has a modern north arcade of three bays, replacing a late-11th-century wall and 14th-century extension. The early-13th-century south arcade is of two bays with obtuse-pointed arches of two chamfered orders with wide jointing, springing from a massive low cylindrical pier and responds, all with roll-moulded capitals, and bases approximating to the hold-water type. The west respond has been transformed into a pier by the addition of a second half-column of 14th-century date; the mouldings of the earlier capital are continued, with the addition of an intermediate roll to the abacus, giving it three rolls instead of two separated by a hollow. The corbel on the west wall is semi-hexagonal with a typical scroll-moulded and beaded abacus, tapering stem, and roll astragal, supporting an obtuse-pointed arch. Against the composite pier is a block strengthening the 15th-century tower. The west wall is probably 14th-century work, with a chamfered plinth. The west doorway is contemporary, yet obviously inserted; it may have been the south door to the 14th-century church. It has an equilateral arch with chamfered head and jambs; the hood is ogee-scroll moulded and has returned ends; the rear-arch is restored. Above is a two-light window with 14th-century obtuse-pointed rear-arch and modern tracery. There is a modern buttress between the north aisle and nave, replacing one of 14th-century diagonal type.

The north aisle was added in 1869. In its east wall is the original east window to the chancel, with three chamfered lancets and a chamfered segmental-pointed rear-arch. In the middle of the north wall is the narrow reset north door of the late 11th century; it has projecting impost with chamfered under-edge, and a semi-circular arch of one order and a hood, both with shallow groove and roll mouldings.⁶² The south aisle (27 ft. 8 in. × 7 ft. 6 in.) is of c. 1500. The south wall is built of large coursed blocks, like the tower. It has a cornice and chamfered plinth which continues over two low buttresses. Between the latter is a contemporary window of three delicate trefoil lights with a flat four-centred lintel. The jambs have two sunk chamfers, and the mullions are hollow-chamfered. The south doorway has a four-centred outer arch; the label has an under-cut chamfer and terminal grotesques; there are leaf carvings in the spandrels. East of it is a contemporary stoup with four-centred arch, the bowl has a mutilated outer edge; the modern porch is cut away to reveal half of it.

The south-west tower (9 ft. × 9 ft. 6 in.) was added c. 1500 and replaced the 14th-century extension of the earlier south aisle; it is built in line with the west wall of the nave and projecting from the contemporary south aisle. It is of two stages divided by a chamfered

string, and finished with a chamfered plinth and hollow-chamfered cornice and pyramidal cap. There are contemporary buttresses at the free angles. The tower string-course passes over the top-most chamfer of the two southern, but is interrupted at the north-west buttress, which is slightly taller, of coarser construction, and built in four (instead of two) chamfered stages. It continues higher than the west gable of the nave, and is bonded in neither to the west nave wall, nor, as the other buttresses, to the lower stage of the tower, yet its masonry extends into the base of the top stage of the latter. This, with the strengthening of the west pier of the south arcade, suggests a preliminary step to the building of the tower, of which the north wall would otherwise depend for its support on the west bay of the south nave arcade. The east wall is divided from the south aisle by an equilateral arch of two chamfered orders, the north jamb forming part of the aforesaid reinforcement. In the south wall is a window similar to that in the south aisle, but of two lights; the hood is mutilated, with carved stops, an owl to west, a grotesque to east. The west wall retains masonry of the 14th-century aisle extension, the width of which is probably suggested by a step in the chamfered plinth (7 ft. 7 in. from north). A west doorway was blocked when the gallery was removed in 1869. In the second stage the contemporary walls have two-light windows with equilateral heads set in a square frame. Below each, on the south and west walls, is a modern clock face and narrow ogee-headed opening.

The roofs are modern throughout, except for two columnar king-posts of late-17th- or early-18th-century date. The floors are tiled. There is one step at the chancel arch.⁶³ The pulpit is partly of the 17th century.

There are five bells:⁶⁴ (1) and (2) 1766, Lester and Pack of London. (3) 1599, Edmund Giles of Lewes. (4) Probably 16th-century—'Wox Agustine Sonet in Aure Dei'—and two shields.⁶⁵ (5) 1714, Samuel Knight of London.

The plate includes a chalice and paten (1869 hall-marks), and a plated flagon.

There is a yew on the north side of the churchyard.

The church of Wivelsfield was *ADVOWSON* given to the priory of St. Pancras at Lewes by the second William de

Warrenne about 1095.⁶⁶ It was attached as a chapelry to the church of Ditchling before the end of the 12th century⁶⁷ and remained so until the Dissolution. In 1535 the chapel, with the farm of Ditchling Rectory, was in the tenure of John More.⁶⁸ With the other possessions of Lewes Priory it was granted to Thomas Cromwell in 1538, and to Anne of Cleves in 1541, for her life.⁶⁹ The tithes were appropriated, and for some time the living was a perpetual curacy in the Archdeaconry of Lewes, in the patronage of the impropiator.⁷⁰ In the middle of the century the tithes were held by a Mr. Newdigate, and by his widow from 1559 to about 1563, and subsequently by John Chambers in 1565 and Henry Michell in 1570.⁷¹ In 1585 the 'grange and tithes' were leased by William Webb to Richard Mascall.⁷² The reversion is said to

⁶⁰ In the Library of the Society of Antiquaries.

⁶¹ Add. MS. 5672, fol. 37.

⁶² It resembles the south doorway of Bolney: P. M. Johnston in *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 365.

⁶³ Two steps and a low modern wall

here were removed in 1937. Information on recent changes kindly furnished by the Rev. G. Henniker-Gotley.

⁶⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, p. 230.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*, figs. 21, 22, 23.

⁶⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii, 22.

⁶⁷ *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 253.

⁶⁸ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 326.

⁶⁹ *L. & P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (i), g. 384 (74); *ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

⁷⁰ Horsfield, *Hist. of Suss.* i, 227

⁷¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvi, 50.

⁷² *Pat. R.* 28 Eliz., pt. x.

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have been acquired by Francis More (of More Place) in 1600, and he died seised of them in 1617.⁷³ From Thomas More, the last of the line, who died in 1732,⁷⁴ the rectory and advowson passed to Thomas Middleton (son of his sister Elliott and John Middleton), and subsequently to Frances, sister of Thomas Middleton and wife of Robert Day, who was holding the rectory with her husband in 1743.⁷⁵ Frances Day left it to John Fuller, who conveyed it to Anthony Tanner in 1781.⁷⁶ It was held successively by William Tanner and his son Richard, who was the holder in 1835.⁷⁷ The advowson was devised by John Fuller in 1780 to his nephew William Tanner, and was sold before 1864 to Miss Jane Tanner⁷⁸ of Ote Hall, and after her death in 1881 was sold with the rectory to Charles Longley,⁷⁹ who was the owner until his death in April 1905. His daughter Mrs. Collard sold the advowson in 1927 to the Revs. R. Weston and P. E. Warrington, representing the Martyr's Memorial Trust from which body it was bought in 1935 for transfer to the Chichester Diocesan Board of Patronage.⁸⁰

Frances More (otherwise Baldings) *CHARITIES* Charity. Frances More by will dated 12 Dec. 1723 gave a messuage and land situate at Wivelsfield, called 'Baldings', and directed that out of the rents thereof £2 should be paid to the poor of the parish. The endowment now consists of £80 Consols producing £2 a year in dividends.

Thomas Moore's Charity (otherwise More House). Thomas Moore by will dated 7 April 1731 gave a rentcharge of £5 issuing out of an estate in Wivelsfield and Chepsted known as More House Farm for the benefit of the poor of the parish. The rentcharge is regularly received.

Walter Lucas by will dated 27 April 1742 gave a rentcharge of £2 12s. issuing out of land situate in the parish of Ditchling to be distributed in bread to the poor of the parish. The rentcharge is regularly received.

The income of the above-mentioned charities is distributed to the poor on St. Thomas's Day by a body of trustees appointed under a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 2 Nov. 1880.

⁷³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvi, 54.

⁷⁴ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 278.

⁷⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 498; *Cal. Misc.*

Coll. C. Lewes, C. 20.

⁷⁶ Feet of F. *Suss. Hil.* 21 Geo. III.

⁷⁷ Horsfield, *Hist. Suss.* i, 227.

⁷⁸ Add. MS. 39469, fol. 345.

⁷⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvi, 55.

⁸⁰ *Ex inf.* Mr. H. M. Blaker.

THE HUNDRED OF BUTTINGHILL

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

ARDINGLY
BALCOMBE
BOLNEY
CLAYTON
CRAWLEY

CUCKFIELD
with HAYWARDS HEATH
WEST HOATHLY
HURSTPIERPOINT

KEYMER
with BURGESS HILL
SLAUGHAM
TWINEHAM
WORTH

IN 1086 Buttinghill Hundred [Botingelle (xi cent.); Buttyngehulle (xiv cent.)]¹ consisted only of Hurst, Clayton, Wickham (in Clayton), and Keymer.² Worth was included in Reigate Hundred, Surrey, and Twineham was in the half-hundred of Wyndham. In 1296 there were three 'vills' in the hundred, Keymer and Clayton, Hurst and Cuckfield, and Crawley.³ In 1316 the 'vills' were Hurstpierpoint, Wyndham, Clayton, Cuckfield, and Worth and Crawley.⁴ By 1327 the grouping was Crawley, Worth, and Burleigh as one; Hurst; Clayton; Cuckfield; and Slaugham.⁵ In 1332 these were in four groups, Clayton going with Keymer and Hurst, Cuckfield with Slaugham, and Worth and Burleigh separately.⁶

By the beginning of the 17th century there were nine 'boroughs', viz. Worth, Crawley, Keymer, Hurst, Clayton, Cuckfield, Wyndham, Slaugham, and Burleigh Arches.⁷ For the purpose of electing the four constables of the hundred these were divided into four groups. One constable was chosen by Keymer, Hurst, and Clayton, another by Cuckfield and Slaugham, a third by Worth and Crawley, while the fourth was chosen 'for the halfe hundred of Windham contayninge' Bolney and Twineham. Burleigh Arches seems to have had no part in these elections, and for certain purposes was included in Lindfield, in Streat Hundred.⁸ For the collection of the subsidy of 1621 the half-hundred of Wyndham, containing Bolney and Twineham, was separately assessed, and the grouping of the Buttinghill vills was: north part, Slaugham, Cuckfield, Worth, and Crawley, with the addition of Balcombe; south part, Hurstpierpoint, Keymer, and Clayton.⁹ In 1665 the composition of the hundred was still the same.¹⁰ By 1724, however, the parishes in Buttinghill Hundred were Ardingly, Balcombe, Bolney, Clayton, Crawley, Cuckfield, Hurstpierpoint, Keymer, Slaugham, Twineham, West Hoathly, and Worth.¹¹

The hundred courts were held sometimes at Buttinghill, the mound beside Hain Farm in the parish of Clayton, and sometimes at Cuckfield.¹²

The hundred belonged to the Earls Warenne and descended with the rape and barony of Lewes.¹³ It came into the possession of the lords of Hurstpier-

¹ See *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lviii, 6 et seq.

³ *Subsidies* (Suss. Rec. Soc. x), 46.

⁵ *Subs.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. x), 176.

⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 125.

⁹ 'Subsidy Roll', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 80-4.

¹⁰ *Lay Subs.* 258, no. 18.

¹² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lviii, 11; xxiii, 229.

¹³ *Feud. Aids*, v, 137; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 18 Hen. VI, 28; *ibid.* 17 Edw. IV, 58; *ibid.* 1 Rich. III, 43; *Pat. R.*

19 Eliz., pt. 3; *Recov. R. East.* 7 Geo. IV, ro. 27.

² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 440.

⁴ *Feud. Aids*, v, 136 (*Nomina Villarum*).

⁶ *Ibid.* 290.

⁸ *Ibid.* 126.

¹¹ Budgen's map of that date. Cf. *Streat Hundred*.

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point, apparently as subtenants, for in 1468 the king granted return of writs and other privileges in the hundred to Richard Fiennes, Lord Dacre.¹⁴ It followed the descent of the manor of Hurstpierpoint and passed to the Gorings,¹⁵ but instead of passing with the manor of Hurstpierpoint to the Shaws, Buttinghill Hundred was apparently acquired by another branch of the family, the Gorings of Highden. It descended in that family in the 18th century¹⁶ and was still held by Sir Charles Foster Goring and his son in 1828.¹⁷

¹⁴ *Cal. Chart.* vi, 225.

¹⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 214, 235, 83; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxiii, 229.

¹⁶ *Recov. R. Trin.* 6 Geo. III, ro. 418; *ibid.* Trin. 39 Geo. III, ro. 78.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* Hil. 8 and 9 Geo. IV, ro. 21.

BUTTINGHILL HUNDRED

ARDINGLY

Herdingle (xi cent.); Erdinglegh (xiii cent.).

The parish of Ardingly has an area of 3,811 acres. In 1934 a detached portion of the parish was transferred to Balcombe. The church stands on the brow of a hill in the centre of the parish, at a height of 398 ft. South of it the ground slopes down to the Ouse Valley, with Ardingly College, a Church of England Public School belonging to the Woodard Foundation, about half-way down. At the bottom, at a level of 125 ft., in the extreme south of the parish, is the station, on the branch line of the Southern Railway from Haywards Heath to East Grinstead. Beside the station a road comes north from Haywards Heath and joins the road from Lindfield to Godstone, which runs up the east side of the parish, at the hamlet of Hapstead, now the main village, whence another road branches west to the church. A Roman road ran through the centre of the parish from north to south.

The ground rises all the time to the north of the parish, reaching a height of 500 ft. A little stream runs from the north down the western side of the parish, through a narrow valley, to meet the Ouse; and a similar stream marks the eastern boundary.

There is a Congregational Church in the village, built in 1885.

Wakehurst Place was erected in 1590 by Sir Edward Culpeper on or near the site of the earlier manor-house of the Wakehurst family. The house was originally of courtyard plan, the court being about 63 ft. square, the north range being about 26 ft. broad, and the east and west ranges 24 ft. externally. The south side appears to have been closed by another 24-ft. range with a middle gate-house: this was destroyed before 1697, but its foundations were discovered in excavations made in 1905. In 1845 two-thirds of each of the side wings were pulled down and the remainder refaced in their present positions with the stone-work of the original gabled south ends. The old north range—or present south range—was occupied by the great hall, entered by the middle porch, and the state rooms were in the west range—the south room, with the chamber above it, being 41 ft. long and lighted by bay-windows towards the courtyard as are those in the existing range. It was probably the position of the north wall of this chamber that decided the length of the parts that were saved. The corresponding east wing formed the servants' quarters.

At some period the hall was divided into smaller chambers, and also probably both wings. Before 1869, when the house was sold to the Marchioness of Downshire, there was a middle hall 21 ft. wide with a small drawing-room west of it and a dining-room east of it occupying the site of the original great hall, and in the west wing was a south drawing-room and a north stair-hall and gallery. The bedrooms above were approximately on similar lines. The marchioness rearranged the interior, converted the east range into a library, added a parallel wing east of it with a study, and north of that a chapel, and also built the long range of domestic offices to the north of the western half. The heraldic chimney-piece which was in the small drawing-room was removed to the library, and the main staircase rebuilt in a new entrance-hall on the north side, west of the chapel; the whole west wing was then utilized as

the dining-room. The next owner, Sir William Boord, made minor alterations to the interior. The late Lord Wakehurst—formerly G. W. E. Loder, M.P.—who bought the property in 1903, added a small porch to the north entrance. The house has recently been put into thorough repair by the present occupier, Sir Henry Price, but no structural alterations of any importance were made in the ancient parts.

The walls are of ashlar in the local sandstone: the roofs are covered with Horsham slabs. The house is of two stories and attics: the first-floor level is marked by a moulded string-course. The south elevation is symmetrical. The main block has a middle porch and two bay-windows, all three of full height of the elevation and having gabled heads. There are also intermediate windows between the porch and the bay-windows, surmounted by detached gabled dormers. All five gables have panelled pilaster-corbels below the kneelers, and pinnacles with ball-heads above them as well as on the apices. The slopes of the porch-gable are decorated with double scrolls or consoles standing up above the coping. The canted sides of the bay-windows are corbelled out above the first-floor windows to carry the square gables above. The ground-floor windows are tall and divided by two transoms, the top lights having four-centred heads: the first-floor windows have only one transom. All the windows have enriched entablatures above them, those to the ground-floor windows being continued as the string-course.

The entrance to the porch has a round head with lozenge-shaped panels to face and soffit and with spandrels carved with foliage and the initials E.C. It is flanked by Tuscan shafts on panelled pedestals carrying an entablature with enriched mouldings and frieze. The window on the first floor is included in the same architectural treatment and is flanked by Ionic shafts above a fluted frieze and panelled pedestals. Below the window is a deep rectangular panel with carved mouldings, which probably once contained an achievement of arms. Over the Ionic shafts are panelled superpilasters with cornices and above these small human figures on pedestals. Between them is an entablature, with an enriched convex frieze, and a moulded pediment. A string-course level with the entablature is carried round the walls of the porch. In the gable-head is a three-light window: the windows in the other gable heads are of two lights. As noticed by Mr. J. A. Gotch,¹ the bay-windows are placed unusually close to the inner walls of the side-wings. This suggests that the house was intended to be wider from east to west originally and that this front was begun before the other sides of the courtyard. The inner faces of the wings retain, each, only one of the original four windows (including one bay-window) that existed on each floor. Above them are gablets as in the main wall. The ends of the wings have double steps at the bases of the gables with pinnacles. The lower windows have fluted friezes on their entablatures, and the upper carved convex friezes. On the west side is a gabled bay-window like the others, and a chimney-stack with two diagonal square shafts. The east side has, above the modern one-storied study, windows to the first floor, and two gabled dormers. In the modern porch on this front is a twelve-panelled door with a shield dated 1590 in

¹ *Architecture of the Renaissance in England*, ii, 34.

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the tympanum. Presumably the whole of the buildings on the north side are modern, but the entrance to the stair-hall has an original door from the south front, enriched with carving and nail-studded.

The staircase retains the screen figured by Nash,² with fluted square posts and Ionic capitals, lintel as entablature with a lozenge carved frieze and elaborately carved pendants, and an upper balustrade with round-headed openings, enriched pilasters, and brackets below the carved top rail. The staircase has panelled newels with carved heads, twisted balusters, and moulded hand-rail. The panelling, from a bedroom, placed by Lady Downshire in the chapel, has now been refixed in the entrance hall. The drawing-room, also illustrated by Nash, has a frieze of mermaids and a ribbed patterned ceiling with central pendants. The dining-room, occupying the west wing, has a similar ceiling, presumably not all ancient, and is lined with oak panelling apparently made up from several sources and of different periods: one frieze panel bears the initials and date TH 1705. There is also a frieze of mermaids, of uncertain age. The library—the east wing—contains the stone chimney-piece formerly in the drawing-room. The fire-place is square headed, surrounded by carved moulding and having a lintel with a foliage and fruit pattern, all flanked by intricately carved pilasters. The overmantel has a middle panel with a heavy frame carved with vine ornament and enclosing an achievement of the Culpeper arms, with twelve quarterings.³ On either side of the panel are round-headed niches containing allegorical figures of Charity and Peace, the whole being flanked by pilasters carved with terminal figures of satyrs: the frieze between has a range of fourteen shields, representing the alliances of the Culpeper family. Above the cornice are pierced crestings of scrolls and grotesques. Some of the other fire-places are probably ancient and some have overmantels partly made up of 16th- or 17th-century material.

Newhouse, now called Culpeper, about a mile north-west of Wakehurst Place, was built in the late 17th century and rebuilt with the stone taken from the destroyed wings of the great house in 1845–6. It has a gabled bay in the middle of the south front with pilasters and pinnacles as at Wakehurst and a one-story porch with a gable head and similar detail. The windows, of two or three lights, are mullioned and transomed.

Great Strudgate Farm, now two tenements, about 1½ miles north of Wakehurst, is of a modified T shape, with brick and tile-hung walls. The back wing retains a fine 16th-century projecting chimney-stack of stone with tabled sides: the shaft above is modern. The central fire-place in the front block is also of stone.

South of the church is Upper Lodge, an early-16th-century house of two stories, the lower cemented, the upper tile-hung. Later in the century a central chimney-stack, having an 8-ft. fire-place with an oak bressummer, was built in one of the bays of the original hall, and the ground-floor and first-floor rooms have original posts and cross-beams about a yard in front (south-east) of it; this space in the roof shows signs of smoke-blackening from the former hall fire. The roof retains two bays of the original construction with wind-braced side-purlins. The staircase is modern but the upper floor-boards show where the original balk-stair rose between the hall and south-east wing.

Hill House Farm, about 1½ miles south-east of the church, is a mid-16th-century house. The lower walls are partly of stone, partly of 18th-century brick, replacing early timber-framing; the upper story is tile-hung. The end walls have moulded bressummers to the projecting gable-heads, and moulded barge-boards. The plan has two end rooms with an entrance-hall between them, containing an original staircase. The south-east room has a great fire-place in a projecting chimney-stack that is built of red bricks with black diaper ornament, and has two square detached shafts under one capping. The north-west room also has a 10-ft. fire-place, but its chimney-shaft has been rebuilt. Both rooms have original moulded ceiling beams and exposed chamfered joists.

Lywood Farm is a tall building of three stories built probably late in the 16th century. The walls are mostly of timber-framing with plastered infilling. The main block is rectangular, facing east, and has a huge central chimney-stack with wide fire-places. The entrance to the hall, north of the chimney-stack, has a door of vertical and diagonal battens, nail-studded in six tiers of three round-headed arches, and an original iron knocker. The hall retains some of its ancient floor-tiles, and its north wall has a partition of moulded battens between it and the room beyond. Next east of the chimney-stack is an old winding staircase; above the first floor it has steps of solid oak balks.

Most of the rooms have original moulded ceiling-beams and exposed rafters.

West Hill, a spur of the Forest Ridge 340 ft. high, about a mile north-west of the church, has a group of houses partly in Ardingly and partly in Balcombe.

Lullings, the modern name for West Hill Farm, long the home of the Newnhams, is a mid-15th-century house facing south. It had a great hall of two 9-ft. bays open to the roof. The middle truss remains in place with a highly cambered tie-beam, on posts with moulded corbel-heads, and a plain king-post with four-way struts below a central purlin. The original curved braces below the tie-beam have been removed. In the closed framing of the east wall is also a king-post. In the west partition, at first-floor level, is a mutilated moulded and embattled wall-beam, with mortices for former studding. The west wing (the solar?) remains, although somewhat altered inside. In the east wing a great chimney-stack was inserted late in the 16th century, with the upper floor in the hall and the addition of a further east wing, which has moulded beams and exposed joists. The south entrance, by the chimney-stack, has the shaped brackets for a former 18th-century hood, which was probably gabled.

Perrymans, now Pearmints, is a house of two stories and attics built probably early in the 17th century. The walls are of timber-framing with brick infilling. The plan is rectangular, with a central chimney, and the original staircase next south of the chimney-stack. On the bressummer of the east fire-place have been carved the initials and date ID 1705.

Bolney Farm, on the west side of the road to Turner's Hill, about ¼ mile north of Hickpots, is a timber-framed house, probably of 15th-century origin, lengthened at both ends and provided with fire-places and chimney-stacks in the 17th century. The two original wings have curved struts in the upper story of the east front. In the west wall of what was probably the original hall

² *Mansions of England in the Olden Time.*

³ The heraldry is blazoned in the description of the house published by Gerald

Loder (Lord Wakehurst) in 1907.



ARDINGLY: WAKEHURST, *c.* 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



ARDINGLY CHURCH, FROM THE NORTH-EAST, *c.* 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



ARDINGLY CHURCH: THE CHANCEL SCREEN



ARDINGLY CHURCH: TOMB

is a wide fire-place and projecting chimney-stack gathered in at the sides to two square shafts of 17th-century bricks. A similar chimney-stack projects at the north end. An upper window in the front, of five lights, has moulded oak mullions. The lower rooms have open-timbered ceilings.

Hickpots, Burstye Farm, The Gardeners' Arms Inn, Tillinghurst Farm, and a timber-framed cottage near Lullings, all show features of 17th-century date.

There is no manor of Ardingly. A large *MANOR* part of the parish belonged to the great manors of Ditchling and South Malling, and portions to Plumpton⁴ and Streat.⁵

The manor of *WAKEHURST* was held in the 16th century of the manor of Walstead in Lindfield, by fealty and rent of 12d.⁶ As early as 1205 one William de Wakehurst held land in Ardingly,⁷ and he seems to have been still living about 1235.⁸ Another William is mentioned in 1278, and had three sons, Richard, William, and John.⁹ Richard seems to have been in possession from 1287 to 1309,¹⁰ and his namesake, Richard Wakehurst, was knight of the shire in Parliament in the reign of Henry V.¹¹ He died in 1454 and his widow Elizabeth ten years later, and as his sons had predeceased him his heirs were his two granddaughters Elizabeth and Margaret Wakehurst. The sisters were



WAKEHURST. *Gules a chevron argent between three hawks or.*



CULPEPER. *Argent a bend engrailed gules.*

abducted and married by the brothers of their neighbour John Culpeper, Nicholas Culpeper marrying Elizabeth, and Richard marrying Margaret.¹² Nicholas and Elizabeth had eighteen children, of whom the eldest, Richard, inherited Wakehurst at his mother's death soon after 1517. He was succeeded by his son John in 1539,¹³ and the latter died in 1565, leaving a son Thomas,¹⁴ whose son Edward was only 9 at his father's death in 1571.¹⁵ Thomas's widow Anne, who married as her third husband Henry Barkeley, LL.D., held Wakehurst during her lifetime.¹⁶ Edward Culpeper was the builder of Wakehurst Place, in 1590, and was knighted at the accession of James I.¹⁷ His son William, who succeeded him in 1630,¹⁸ had been made a baronet in 1628, was M.P. for East Grinstead in 1640, and died in 1678, when, his son Benjamin having predeceased him, the manor passed to his grandson William.¹⁹ This Sir William, who came of age in 1689, gambled away his property, and in 1694 sold Wakehurst for

£9,000 to Dennis Liddell,²⁰ a Commissioner of the Navy and a friend of Pepys. Liddell was succeeded in 1717 by his son Richard, who evidently conveyed the manor to his brother, the Rev. Charles Liddell, rector of Ardingly and Worth, since he held courts there from 1731 onwards.²¹ Charles Liddell at his death in 1757 left Wakehurst to his cousins Richard and Dennis Clarke, with remainder to Joseph Peyton, a distant relative. Richard died in 1760 and Dennis in 1776, both without issue, and the manor then came to Joseph Peyton, later an admiral in the navy.²² He died in 1804, and his son, Rear-Admiral Joseph Peyton, in 1816. Captain John Ritson Peyton, son of the latter, held it until 1825, and his son Joseph John, a lieutenant in the Life Guards, until 1844, but in 1869 his son John East Hunter Peyton sold it to Caroline Frances, Dowager Marchioness of Downshire.²³ In 1893 Lady Downshire sold Wakehurst Place to Thomas William Boord, who was created a baronet in 1896, and he sold it in 1903 to Gerald W. E. Loder,²⁴ who in 1934 was created Baron Wakehurst of Ardingly, and died in 1936. His widow is the present owner.



LODER, Lord Wakehurst *Azure a fesse between two scallops or with three bucks' heads caboshed proper on the fesse.*

The church of *ST. PETER*²⁵ occupies *CHURCH* the site of a 12th-century church of which the only evidence now left is a small capital found buried in the north wall of the nave in 1887 and now preserved in the north aisle. Two or three stones reset in the south aisle wall are probably of the same period. The chancel, nave, and south aisle date chiefly from c. 1330, but the lower parts of the chancel walls may be earlier and the responds of the south arcade appear to contain 13th-century material. The west tower and south porch were added in the 15th century. The church was restored in 1853, and in 1887 the north aisle and vestry were added: the roofs were restored in 1926.

The chancel (25½ ft. by 18½ ft.) has an early-14th-century east window of three trefoiled lights and leaf tracery in a two-centred head with an external hood-mould. The window is partly restored. The chamfered rear-arch has a moulded label with head-stops. In the north wall is a window of two trefoiled oggee-headed lights and a quatrefoil in a two-centred head with an external hood-mould. Next west is a modern archway to the vestry. On the south side is a similar window. The two windows have inside remarkable roll-moulded wooden hood-moulds. Farther west is a single-light trefoiled low-side window which has a transom and rebates for a shutter. It has an external hood-mould and is widely splayed inside. Between the windows is a priest's doorway with moulded jambs and pointed head, and segmental-pointed rear-arch: above,

⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, *passim*.

⁵ Cf. *Streat Hundred*.

⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 26, 73. Walstead was a subinfeudation of South Malling.

⁷ *Ibid.* ii, 105.

⁸ *Lewes Chartul.* i, 76.

⁹ C. Loder, *Wakehurst Place*, 5-7.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 7, 8; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 52.

¹¹ *Cal. Pat.* 1413-16, pp. 103, 460; 1416-22, pp. 122, 126; *Feet of F.* *Suss.* Mich. 3 Hen. V.

¹² Add. MS. 39504, fol. 11; Loder, *op.*

cit. 18. Nicholas, Margaret, and Richard were all dead by 1516: Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (*Ardingly*), 121.

¹³ Loder, *op. cit.* 24.

¹⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 26.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 73.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* xx, 455; Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (*Ardingly*), 127.

¹⁷ Loder, *op. cit.* 42, 48.

¹⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 317.

¹⁹ Loder, *op. cit.* 24.

²⁰ *Ibid.* 66.

²¹ *Ibid.* 76-8; Add. MS. 5684, fol. 151; *Recov. R.* Mich. 21 Geo. II, ro. 381.

²² Loder, *op. cit.* 80-94.

²³ *Ibid.* 92, 102. Wakehurst Park was sold to Mr. Smith of Paddockhurst in 1863; *ibid.* 101.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 103-7.

²⁵ There was a wake (*vigil*) or un-chartered fair here on the feast of SS. Peter and Paul, of which the proceeds were returned as *nil* in 1465: Rental (Norfolk muniments).

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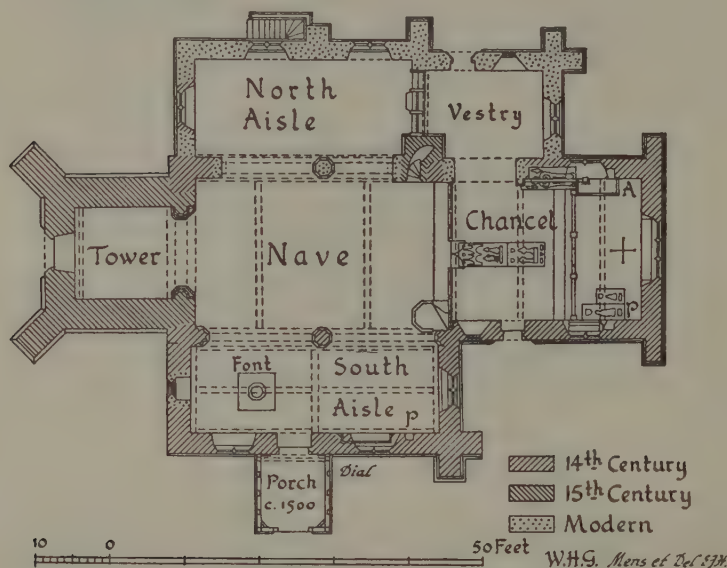
there are marks in the walling of a former gabled erection (a porch or hood?). There is no chancel-arch, but the south wall breaks forward about 13 inches. The chancel walls are of rubble with much mortar. They have a plinth of two orders which appears to be of the 13th century, and the lower stones of the walling are more or less coursed and larger and squarer than those in the upper parts of the walls. Flush with the east wall are north and south buttresses. The gable-head of the east wall has old moulded kneelers and plain coping, and a modern gable-cross. The roof is of collar-beam type and may be 14th-century; the wall-plates are moulded and there are two plain tie-beams.

chancel-screen. The roof is slightly higher than that of the chancel and is covered with Horsham slabs.

The modern north aisle (13 ft. wide) has two north windows of 14th-century character with pointed heads. The west window appears to be a 14th-century window reset and reworked, probably from the former north wall of the nave: it has two trefoiled ogee-headed lights under a square main head. An archway opens into the vestry.

The south aisle (11½ ft. wide) has an east window of two trefoiled ogee-headed lights and a cinquefoiled circle in a two-centred head with an external hood-mould having human-head stops. South of the window

PARISH CHURCH of ST. PETER ARDINGLY



It is covered with Horsham slabs. In the south wall is a 14th-century moulded piscina with a shallow multi-foiled basin and in the north wall an aumbry with rebated jambs and pointed head: both have hood-moulds.

The nave (34½ ft. by 19½ ft.) has arcades of two bays. The northern, of 1887, has an octagonal pillar and chamfered responds and pointed arches. The eastern bay is a narrow one, the western wide. Eastwards is a 15th-century rood-stair with a square-headed doorway at the foot and a blocked upper doorway. The south arcade has an octagonal middle pillar retooled, with a modern base and a re-worked 14th-century moulded capital. The responds are peculiar and are probably of the 13th century adapted by the 14th-century builders: they are of part-octagonal plan with a two-thirds-round shaft, 5 in. in diameter, worked on each angle. The east respond has a 14th-century moulded semi-octagonal capital which ignores the outline of the respond. The west respond has a capital similarly treated but apparently modern, as is the base. The arches, original, are two-centred and of two chamfered orders. The roof is of the 15th century and is divided into three bays by trusses which have plain tie-beams, strutted king-posts, and longitudinal curved braces under a central purlin below the collar-beams. One truss comes above the

are traces of a doorway to the Wakehurst pew. In the south wall are two windows, also of the 14th century, the western similar, but with a quatrefoil, and the eastern of two trefoiled ogee-headed lights under a square head with a label. The south doorway, between the windows, has hollow-chamfered jambs and pointed head with a hood-mould. In the west wall is a modern light of vesica-piscis shape. The walling of the aisle is of rubble, mostly in ironstone, and has a chamfered plinth. The west wall appears to have been rebuilt with old material. At the south-east angle are two square buttresses, perhaps later additions. A straight joint with angle dressings in the upper part of the west wall indicates the original south-west angle of the nave. The soffit of the roof, although it is gabled, is only slightly cambered. It has a middle truss with a moulded principal, a tie-beam on wall posts, and with curved braces below it, carried on plain stone corbels. At the feet of the braces are carved small human heads. There are also moulded wall-plates and central purlins, probably of the 14th century. In the south wall is a plain round-headed piscina with a half-round basin, and west of it a recess 7 ft. 1 in. long with moulded jambs and segmental arch.

The west tower (12 ft. square) is 50 ft. high, of three stages, and is built of rubble of roughly squared

stones: it has no string-courses except to the plain parapet: the plinth is chamfered. At the two west angles are heavy diagonal buttresses of three stages: they are bonded into the walls, but are of different material and workmanship to the masonry in the lower half of the tower. The archway towards the nave has semi-octagonal responds with plain bases and moulded capitals of the 15th century, the head being two-centred and of two chamfered orders. The west doorway has moulded jambs and two-centred head with an external hood-mould, and the window above it is of three cinque-foiled lights and vertical tracery in a four-centred head with an external hood-mould. The second stage has a single round-headed light in three walls and the top-stage a window of two round-headed lights in each of the four walls.

The roof is pyramidal and has a lead-covered central post with a capping: local legend asserts that a cresset or beacon formerly existed on the post. There are heavy beamed floors to the stories.

The south porch is of old timber framing of c. 1500 and is covered with weather-boarding except within 18 in. of the side eaves, which is left open and fitted with posts. The south front is gabled and has a modern entrance. The two trusses of the roof are of king-post type and the roof is covered with Horsham slabs. The framing of the walls is carried on dwarf stone walls. There is an inscription that the porch was restored in memory of the Rector 1875 to 1911.

The font, pulpit, and lectern are modern; the communion rails are of the 17th century and have turned and twisted balusters and made-up box handrails. The chancel-screen is of early-15th-century date, partly restored. It is divided by main moulded posts, which have capitals, into five main bays, of which the middle has a pair of doors. Each bay is sub-divided and each half-bay contains three open lights with cinquefoiled round heads and crocketed finials above the middle rail, which is carved with running foliage; below it is closed panelling, the outer two bays plain, the others traceried, all original except one. A part of the moulded top-rail remains, but the cornice is missing. The screen had been removed in 1853 and stored in the tower: it was refixed across the tower archway in 1887 and in 1924 was reset in its present position.

The only ancient glass is two 14th-century shields in the chancel: one on the north with the arms of Warenne, and the other, opposite, bears or a lion gules.

The tower has an ancient stair of oak balks rising from the level of the west window-ledge, against the north wall, to the first floor.

Lying in a recess in the north wall of the chancel is the effigy of a priest of c. 1330 in mass vestments: the head rests on a cushion, on either side of which is an angel, and he has a lion at his feet. The base is a rough piece of masonry. The recess is moulded and has a segmental-pointed arch and hood-mould with rather crude crockets and a finial with a square block and foliage. It is flanked by heavy square pilasters, which are carved in stages with window-tracery panels and have foiled gable-heads and crocketed tall pinnacles. The panel in the east pilaster is a copy of the east window of the chancel; the lower part of this pilaster was destroyed for the Wakehurst tomb. This is an altar-tomb with panelled stone sides and a moulded top slab of Purbeck

marble containing a canopied brass with effigies of Richard Wakehurst, died 4th January 1454-5, and Elizabeth (Echingham) his wife.²⁶ Richard is represented wearing a doublet and a long fur-trimmed gown with loose wide sleeves and a girdle from which hang a pouch and short rosary; Elizabeth wears a close bodice and a loose skirt, gathered up to reveal her underskirt. She has tight sleeves with fur cuffs and wears a butterfly head-dress with a pedimental front. The canopy has panelled side-posts and gabled and crocketed heads. Above are three shields of arms; the dexter with those of Wakehurst, the sinister with Echingham, [azure] fretty [argent], and the middle with the one impaling the other.

The long side of this altar tomb is of two bays, each with a quatrefoil panel enclosing a blank shield and flanked by wide panelled pilasters: the west end has a similar bay: the east end is plain.

In the chancel floor is a slab with the brass effigies of Richard Culpeper and his wife Margaret, daughter of Richard Wakehurst. She died 25 July 1504: the date of Richard's death is left unfilled. It is a similar type of brass with two figures standing beneath a canopy. Richard is represented in plate armour with mail collar, gussets, and skirt, taces and tuilles, and broad-toed sabatons with rowel spurs. The sword crosses diagonally behind and there is no dagger. Margaret wears a pedimental head-dress with embroidered lappets, gown with close bodice and tight sleeves with fur cuffs, and a girdle with a long pendant end. The double canopy is similar to the other except that the posts or pilasters are shorter at the head and the two shields in the spandrels are inscribed 'Jhu' and 'Mcy'. The lower halves of the pilasters are missing and the upper part of the lady has been restored. Above are three shields of arms: dexter Culpeper, sinister Wakehurst, and the middle Culpeper impaling Wakehurst.

Another slab contains the brasses of Nicholas Culpeper, died 24 May 1510, and Elizabeth his wife (date of death not recorded). They were respectively brother and sister of Richard and Margaret. He is dressed in armour of the same kind as Richard wears, but with a longer mail skirt and tuilles, higher pauldrons, &c. He has a sword and dagger. The lady is very similar to Margaret. Beneath them are groups of ten sons and eight daughters, and there are three shields with the Culpeper and Wakehurst arms.

A fourth brass in the chancel is to Elizabeth (Farnefold) widow of Sir Edward Culpeper of Wakehurst, died 10 September 1633. She is represented wearing a veil head-dress, lace collar, full mantle, and gown which is open in front to reveal a richly embroidered underskirt; the sleeves are striped and have frilled cuffs. Above is a shield of arms.

A fifth brass is of Elizabeth, the seven-year-old daughter of Sir William Culpeper, who died 6 December 1634. The child is shown in a jacket with a deep lace-edged collar and puffed and slashed sleeves, and a full skirt open in front to show the embroidered underskirt, a cord girdle with a tassel, and a veiled head-dress. Above is a rectangular plate with a wreath enclosing a lozenge of arms.

In the tower is a fragment of a cast iron slab, formerly used as a fire-back in a local cottage. It is a copy of the grave-slab of Anne Forster (1591-2) of Crowhurst, Surrey.²⁷

²⁶ For details and illustrations of the brasses see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxvi, 52-62.

²⁷ She was a descendant of the Wake-

hursts (*V.C.H. Surrey*, iv, 280). Several copies of this slab, apparently made for fire-backs, exist; e.g. at Lewes, in Stone-

lands, West Hoathly (see p. 165), and in the grounds of Wolvesey Palace, Winchester.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

The memorial for those who died in the Great War 1914-18 is an oak screen at the east end of the north aisle.

In the churchyard are nineteen table tombs, mostly of the 18th century, and a fine old yew tree.

On the stone west of the south-east window of the south aisle is scratched a sundial with arabic numerals and the date 1572 or 1592.

There are five old bells; one by Lester and Pack 1766, the second by Thomas Mears and Son 1805; the third has no inscription; the fourth is by Brian Eldridge 1629; and the other by John Waylett 1719.²⁸ The treble is by John Warner and Sons, 1911.

The communion plate includes a cup, paten, and flagon of 1672 engraved with the Culpeper arms, and an alms-dish of 1702.²⁹

The registers date from 1557; the first volume with the early parchment transcript is carried up to 1651, the second is from 1652 to 1689, and the third from 1690 to 1723.³⁰ The original paper copy of 1557 is also preserved. There are also churchwardens' accounts from the late 17th century.

The church of Ardingly was granted *ADVOWSON* to the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes by William de Warenne II,³¹ and remained with that house until surrendered to the King at the Dissolution in 1537.³² In 1538 it was granted to Thomas Cromwell³³ but returned in 1540 to the Crown, who presented until 1550.³⁴ The advowson was then granted to Sir Thomas Smith,³⁵ but in 1553 was purchased by John Culpeper and Edward his elder son, and was held in socage of the Queen as of the honor of Grafton, Northants.³⁶ Subsequently it descended with the manor of Wakehurst, although alienated for a while to John Thetcher from 1566 to 1589, and in 1590 to Ninian Warde.³⁷ The advowson and rectory remained with Wakehurst³⁸ until the sale of the manor in 1869,³⁹ when the advowson was retained by Mr. J. E. H. Peyton. After 1877 it was in the hands of his trustees until 1892, when it was acquired by the Rev. T. Bowden.⁴⁰ He died in 1925 and his widow, within a year, disposed of the advowson to Sir Charles A. King-Harman, K.C.M.G., who is the present patron.⁴¹

BALCOMBE

Balecumba (xii cent.); Baldcombe (xiii cent.); Baulcombe, Bawcombe (xvii cent.); Bolkham (xviii cent.).

The parish of Balcombe has an area of 4,718 acres, stretching down in one part to touch the River Ouse in the south, and rising high up on to the forest ridge in the north and north-west. The village is situated on a spur of land coming down from the ridge, at an altitude of 316 ft. It lies just to the east of the main road from Cuckfield to Redhill, where another road branches off and runs south-east along the spur and down to Haywards Heath. Balcombe Place, the residence of Lord Denman, lies to the east of this road, lower down the slope. The church is north-west of the village, beside the main road, and opposite it a road branches off west to Handcross. Near the church is the former rectory, an early-18th-century house of brick with stone dressings. On the forest slope farther north is Highley Manor, with Balcombe Forest behind it, rising to a height of 460 ft. The western part of the forest ridge is Brantridge Forest, with Brantridge Park, the seat of the Earl of Athlone, on the slopes to the south of it. Stanford Brook here forms the north-west boundary of the parish. To the east of the main road is the Warren, occupying a little valley running down from Paddockhurst; and part of Paddockhurst Park, and Little Strudgate Farm, are included within the eastern boundary of the parish. The stream running down this little valley, joining with a stream from Highley, forms a lake to the north of the village, and continues south-east to join the Ouse, being crossed by the road from Balcombe to Ardingly. The north and north-western parts of the parish are all high forest land, and the main road on the eastern edge leaves the parish at an altitude of 440 ft. Just south of this point a road leaves it, curving south-west through the

forest to join the road to Handcross. The tunnel of the Southern Railway line from Brighton to London passes underneath this part.

There are several chalybeate springs in the parish, one of them near Balcombe House, and there are good building-stone quarries. There is a Congregational Church in the village, built in 1893. The station, on the Southern Railway, is a short distance south-west of the village.

In 1934 a detached part of the parish, including Brantridge Park, was attached to Cuckfield, and a portion of Ardingly was annexed to Balcombe.

In the village itself the houses are of no great antiquity, but two tenements (nos. 34 and 35) were an early-17th-century house of square timber-framing with plaster infilling and mullioned windows. The roof is covered with Horsham slabs and has a central chimney-stack of thin bricks and of cross plan. Similar stacks exist at Bagpitts Farm and in two neighbouring cottages, and such a stack is all that remains of Yew Tree Farm, an ancient timber-framed house recently burnt down.

Great Coopers Corner Farm, west of the church, is of L-shaped plan.¹ The eastern main part appears to have been built about 1550. It is of square timber-framing with brick nogging and is roofed with Horsham slabs. At the junction of the wings is a rebated chimney-stack; this has wide fire-places, and the rooms have open-timbered ceilings: next south of the chimney-stack is an ancient winding stair about a central newel. On the farmstead is a large 15th-century barn of five bays with tie-beams with curved braces below them, king-posts, and curved braces below a central purlin; some of the original flat wide rafters remain.

Bowders Farm, 1½ miles south-south-east of the

²⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 198.

²⁹ *Ibid.* liv, 248.

³⁰ The registers down to 1812 have been published by the *Suss. Rec. Soc.*, vol. xvii.

³¹ *Lewes Chartul.* i, 15.

³² Feet of F. Div. Co. Mich. 29 Hen. VIII.

³³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII.* xiii (i),

g. 348 (74).

³⁴ G. Loder, *Wakehurst Place*, 203; *Cal. Pat.* 1549-51, p. 325.

³⁵ *Pat. R.* 4 Edw. VI, pt. viii.

³⁶ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 125.

Chan. Inq. p.m. (ser. 2), cxli, 14.

³⁷ *Ibid.* clxvii, 81; *Pat. R.* 31 Eliz.

pt. vi; Loder, *op. cit.* 203.

³⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 455; xiv, 317;

Recov. R. Mich. 21 Geo. II, ro. 381; 40 Geo. III, ro. 438; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

³⁹ Loder, *op. cit.* 203.

⁴⁰ *Chich. Dioc. Cal.*

⁴¹ *Ex inf.* the Rev. J. L. Brack, rector of Ardingly.

¹ The house is said to have been built in 1618; this may apply to the north-west wing.

church, is of c. 1600 and of T-shaped plan. The walls are of brick and tile-hanging on timber-framing, and at the back is a projecting chimney-stack of brick. Naylands, just east of Bowders, is mostly of modern rebuilding but retains a fragment of the seat of the Culpepers;² this is a great projecting chimney-stack, on the west front, of brick, gathered in above with crow-stepping to a rectangular block on which is a row of three detached square shafts close together. The fire-place inside is 15 ft. wide and has a 20-inch bressummer, cambered on the upper edge. In the grounds south of the house is the chimney-stack of a former south wing; it is of stone and has two defaced fire-places, one over the other. These remains are of c. 1580.

Stone Hall, near Naylands, is a house of about 1700. The front has a main block recessed between slightly projecting wings. The walls are of red and black bricks with stone plinths and rusticated stone angle-dressings: at the first-floor level is a moulded string-course, and the eaves have wooden cornices with brackets or modillions. The entrance in the middle has a shell-hood and the windows are mullioned and transomed. The entrance hall has a stone fire-place in which is an iron fire-back dated 1598, and the hall is lined with oak panelling of the same period. The main staircase is of c. 1700, but a back staircase has some silhouette flat balusters of the earlier period. The head of a three-light wood-mullioned window in an internal wall at the north end of the house suggests that possibly some walls of an earlier building are incorporated in the present one.

Edmonds Farm, West Hill, is an early-15th-century house facing approximately south. The much-cambered tie-beam of the middle roof-truss of the hall is in place: it is chamfered and has in the middle of it the chamfered 'stiffener', cut in the solid, that connected the curved braces which formed the arch below it: the braces have been removed, but mortices in the tie-beam indicate their position. The king-post, &c., are hidden above the upper ceiling. The pointed doorway—like those at Slipe in Twineham and the Priest House at West Hoathly—remains in position in the north wall, but is now filled in; but both the original east and west end walls of the hall have been removed to enlarge the rooms. The central chimney-stack with a 9½ ft. fire-place was inserted in the 17th century in the eastern bay of the hall; the first floor was then, or later, remade and has chamfered beams. Externally, typical large curved braces remain in the three walls of the east (buttery) wing, but elsewhere the framing has been somewhat altered. The west wall is of stone of the 18th century; apparently half the solar wing has been obliterated and the remainder incorporated in the present rooms. At the back is a 17th-century wing, making the plan T-shaped: it shows square timber-framing in its east wall, the west being of stone with tile-hanging above.

Woodwards Farm, to the north of Edmonds Farm, is of modified L-shaped plan. The main block, dating from about 1600, faces east. The back wing projecting to the west from near the south end of it is earlier. The chamber forming its westernmost bay has the typical rough wide flat ceiling joists of a 15th-century solar or buttery wing, and there is a great 14-in. chamfered beam above the partition dividing it from the room next east, which may have been the great hall, but there are no visible traces of the usual roof-truss

of the hall. A great chimney-stack, 9 ft. thick and with 9-ft.-wide fire-places, was built in, in the probable east bay of the hall, and the main block added east of it in place of the other original wing. The front block is of square timber-framing with brick infilling to the lower story and plaster infilling to the upper story. The back wing has mostly brick and tile-hung walls, but some framing is exposed in the north side-wall. The main room of the back wing has a 17th-century open-timbered ceiling including two longitudinal main beams, and the west room the earlier wide flat joists mentioned. The upper story of this part has moulded joists, and the other rooms have open-timbered ceilings.

Spicers Farm, near Pilstye, is of T-shaped plan. The main block, dating from about 1580, faces north. The back part, the stem of the T, is of the 15th century and had the normal great hall of two bays with solar and buttery wings. It retains the original moulded wall-beam of the north end of the hall and the framing above with curved braces, but the middle roof-truss has disappeared: the cross-beam on the ground-floor ceiling, marking the position of the former roof-truss, is a little way in front of the chimney-breast in the great stack inserted in the south bay late in the 16th century. The front block was built against the solar wing of the original range, which is now the entrance- and stair-hall. The north front is of square timber-framing and has a two-storied middle porch-wing, also of timber-framing and with a gable-head. The end walls of the range are tile-hung and gabled. The east gable-head projects on a moulded bressummer and has a moulded barge-board. The rooms have moulded beams and stop-chamfered joists in the ceilings, and in this later range are two stairs, from first floor to attic, of solid oak balks; the roof construction over this range has queen-post trusses and side-purlins.

'The White House', ¼ mile west of Spicers Farm, is mostly modern, but it incorporates as its west wing a late-16th-century house of two rooms (on each floor) with a central chimney between them. The southern fire-place is of stone and has an arched lintel, and the room it serves has moulded ceiling beams and chamfered joists, the other room, now the entrance-hall, having a chamfered beam. There are interesting remains of Elizabethan wall-paintings. Over the northern fire-place, ground floor, in a scrolled frame is the inscription: 'Behold the whole state of man, Who is borne to dye but dyes he knows not when, How flower like doth flourish in decay, How soon death's sithe doth cut him down like hay Who is borne with greefe brought up with paine And with a sob doth leave the world againe.' On the first floor, above the south fire-place, another reads: 'Man remember Watch and Pray, Think upon your dying day.' There is another smaller painting east of the last. There is also some late-16th-century panelling in the south room and elsewhere. The east part of the house shows some old framing, perhaps of an out-building now absorbed by the enlargement of the plan.

There was no manor of Balcombe, but a *MANORS* large part of the parish was included in the manor of Ditchling, held by the Earls de Warenne³ and their successors. In 1279 John de Warenne claimed free warren in the vill of Balcombe.⁴

In 1439, when the forest of Worth was partitioned among the three heirs to the barony, it was agreed that each should take a corresponding portion of the manor

² See *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlviii, 68, 86.

³ *Feud. Aids*, v, 129.

⁴ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* 750.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

of Worth, 'if there be any beyond that forest'.⁵ About a century after the division *HIGHLEY*⁶ had replaced Worth as the seat of the forest-manor.⁷ There is a single earlier mention of it, in 1326, when Ralph de Cobham was holding lands in Worth of John, Earl of Surrey, 'by service of rendering 2s. at the manor of Hegghelegh, and suit there'.⁸ And in 1476 John, Duke of Norfolk, died seised of the manor of Hylegh, held of the king by knight service and worth 20s.;⁹ but it is not named among the manors surrendered to the Crown by his widow.¹⁰ By the second half of the 16th century, however, the name Highley was regularly used for this manor, to which the forest of Worth was appurtenant.¹¹ It was then, like the barony, in three portions, half being in the hands of Lord Bergavenny, and a quarter each in the possession of the Duke of Norfolk and the Earl of Derby.¹² The Bergavenny moiety of the manor, separated from the forest of Worth (q.v.), was still with that family in 1624,¹³ and seems now to be part of their manor of Ditchling.¹⁴

The quarter of Highley Manor belonging to Henry, Earl of Derby, was sold by him to Edward More and Thomas Eversfield and the heirs of Edward More in 1582.¹⁵ In 1585 John Eversfield and the same Thomas, his son and heir, were dealing by fine with a moiety of a fourth part of the manor,¹⁶ but in 1595, on John's death, it was claimed that the quarter of the manor, with half the forest of Worth, had been settled in 1582 to the use of John and Thomas and the heirs of Thomas and Anne his wife,¹⁷ and in 1612 Sir Thomas Eversfield and his son Herbert made a conveyance of what was described as the quarter manor,¹⁸ and the family evidently continued to claim it down to 1668.¹⁹ Meanwhile in 1589 Edward More also made a conveyance of a moiety of the fourth part of the manor,²⁰ which portion, along with a moiety of half the forest of Worth, continued to descend with the manor of Worth (q.v.), until at least 1696, when John Smith was holding it.²¹

The Norfolk quarter, with half the forest of Worth, was conveyed in 1583 by Philip, Earl of Arundel, and his brothers to John Farnham,²² who in 1584 sold it to



EVERSFIELD. Ermine a bend sable with three molets pierced thereon.



SHELLEY. Sable a fesse engrailed between three shells or.

Sir Thomas Sherley.²³ Sir Thomas, being in debt to the Crown, surrendered it to Queen Elizabeth and it was re-granted in 1602 to John Middleton and Anthony Fowle and the heirs of Anthony.²⁴ John Middleton and his wife Frances and Thomas their son, with his wife Barbara, were holding a moiety of a fourth part of the manor in 1630,²⁵ and in 1669 John Middleton²⁶ joined with Edward Eversfield (see above) and others in conveying what was described as a moiety of the manor of Highley to Timothy Shelley²⁷ (see below). Anthony Fowle's eighth share was in the hands of Humphrey Fowle in 1672²⁸ and was subsequently acquired by John Newnham, who was holding it in 1777, and who is said to have made a partition with the trustees of Smith's charity.²⁹ By 1786 a quarter of the manor has been acquired by the Rev. George Bethune,³⁰ rector of Worth, and it was in the hands of his son Dr. George Maximilian Bethune in 1834.³¹

When Timothy Shelley's son John died in 1739³² he left to his wife Helen for life his quarter of the manor and half of the forest.³³ After her death it went to his son Timothy, who was succeeded by his sons John (d. 1790) and Bysshe, who was made a baronet in 1806 and lived until 1815.³⁴ Sir Timothy, son of Bysshe, was the father of the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley, who in 1814 was dealing by fine with a fourth part of the manor, though his father was still alive.³⁵ The poet was drowned in 1822 and his property descended to his son Sir Percy Florence Shelley.³⁶ The other quarter of Highley Manor seemed either to have been absorbed into other estates in the parish of Worth or to have been acquired by the Shelleys,³⁷ for there is no further mention of the Bethune portion and in 1867 Sir Percy Florence Shelley conveyed what was called the Manor of Highley to George Smith of Paddockhurst. Before 1880 it was acquired from the trustees of George Smith by Robert Cradock Nicholls, and at his death in 1892 passed to his widow, who married Henry Faure Walker and died in 1907. Mr. H. F. Walker then purchased Highley from the trustees of R. C. Nicholls and is the present lord of the manor.³⁸

A *RECTORY MANOR* has existed in Balcombe at

alias a quarter of the manor of Highley'.

³¹ Horsfield, loc. cit. The estate was apparently leased in 1825 to the Hon. Frederick St. John, who appointed a gamekeeper for the manor of Highley and lands called Hospitality Hall, Cold Harbour, and Strudgates.

³² Berry, *Suss. Gen.* 66; *Recov. R. Trin.* 8 Geo. II, ro. 188.

³³ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 224. He lived at Fenn Place, in the parish of Worth. The manor was said to be in Balcombe and Worth parishes.

³⁴ *Recov. R. Trin.* 31 Geo. III, ro. 173; Berry, *Suss. Gen.* 66; Add. MS. 5683, fol. 184.

³⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 424; Berry, *Suss. Gen.* 66.

³⁶ *Ibid.*; Lower, *Sussex*, i, 24.

³⁷ The Shelleys had held courts, without mention of the other half, since 1744: Ct. Book of the manor.

³⁸ Information from Court Book in possession of the lord of the manor, kindly supplied by Miss M. S. Holgate.

⁵ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 185-6, 188, 189.

⁶ Hegghelegh (xiv cent.); Heyley, Highleigh (xvi cent.).

⁷ Cf. *Cal. Inq.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 386-7; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 3212 (1476).

⁸ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* vi, 703.

⁹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 17 Edw. IV, 58.

¹⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 3212.

¹¹ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 74; cf. Horsfield, *Suss.* i, 267.

¹² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 26, 40, 74.

¹³ *Ibid.* xxxiv, 74.

¹⁴ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

¹⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 218; *Recov. R. Hil.* 26 Eliz. ro. 8.

¹⁶ Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Horsham), 90-1; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 218-19.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* xiv, 384.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* xx, 431.

¹⁹ *Recov. R. Trin.* 19 Jas. I, ro. 1; *Trin.* 20 Chas. II, ro. 136.

²⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 219.

²¹ W. Scawen Blunt, *History of the Crabbet estate in Sussex* (privately printed 1917), i, 64-72; *Recov. R. Mich.* 26

Chas II, ro. 185.

²² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 218.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ *Coll. Deeds* (Lewes) F. 323-4; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 219. John Middleton married Frances daughter of Anthony [Visit. *Suss.* (Harl. Soc. liii), 115] or Nicholas [ibid; Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Horsham), 274] Fowle.

²⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 219; Comber, op. cit. 274, 277. Barbara was a daughter of Henry Shelley of Warminghurst.

²⁶ Grandson of John and nephew of Thomas, being eldest son of Richard, 4th son of John Middleton: Comber, op. cit. 276.

²⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 505. Horsfield, *Suss.* i, 267, says that John Middleton conveyed his share to the trustees of Mr. Smith's Charities, in whom it was vested in 1834.

²⁸ *Recov. R. Trin.* 24 Chas. II, ro. 35.

²⁹ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 184.

³⁰ *Ibid.*; Gamekeepers' Deputations (Lewes), 1787 and 1788, where it is called 'Eastworth' and 'the manor of Worth

least from 1614, and has always belonged to the incumbent for the time being.³⁹ The custom of Borough English obtained in the rectory manor.⁴⁰

The church of *ST. MARY* is a small *CHURCH* structure, of which the present south aisle is said to have been the original nave with the south chapel as its chancel. There is no ancient masonry by which they can be dated, but the wide splays of the windows suggest a 13th- or early-14th-century origin. The west tower is of the 15th century. In 1847–50 the nave and chancel were rebuilt and the present nave was added as a north aisle. In 1872 the chancel was added east of this and the present north aisle and organ chamber built. The whole of the masonry is modern unless otherwise mentioned.

The chancel (26½ ft. by 18½ ft.) has a traceried east window and two single-light side windows: farther west are archways into the organ-chamber and south chapel. The chancel-arch is pointed, with short marble shafts in the responds. The nave (46½ ft. by 20½ ft.) has a north arcade of four bays of 14th-century character, and a south arcade of three bays, the north side of the west tower forming a fourth bay. In the west wall is a doorway and a traceried four-light window. The organ chamber has a single-light east window and twin north windows, and the north aisle four side windows of three lights and tracery. In the west wall is a single light and above it a bulls-eye window. There is an archway between the two parts. The roofs are tiled.

The south chapel (16 ft. 9 in. by 14 ft. 8 in.) has an east window of three lights and tracery and a south window of two lights under a square head, both modern. It has no western archway. The gabled roof, of trussed rafter type, has a plastered ceiling and a western tie-beam. The south aisle (39 ft. 10 in. by 16 ft. 8 in.) has two south windows, the eastern of three cinquefoiled lights and tracery on a segmental-pointed arch and the western a similar single light. Both have wide internal splays. The south doorway has plain chamfered jambs and pointed head: the inner reveals are chamfered with broach base-stops and have ancient dressings: the outer stone-work and the rear-arch are modern. The wall is 3 ft. 4 in. thick, and is of squared rough ashlar. The roof is of collar-beam type with plastered soffit and has modern tie-beams and principals. Both roofs are covered with old Horsham slabs.

The tower (11 ft. east to west by 10 ft. 3 in. north to south) is built of ancient squared rough ashlar and has a chamfered plinth: at the west angles are diagonal buttresses of three stages, and north and south of the east wall are square buttresses, the former projecting into the nave. The pointed archway to the south aisle is of two chamfered orders. The west doorway has jambs and a pointed head of two hollow-chamfered orders and an external hood-mould: the four-centred rear-arch is chamfered: the doorway has been filled in to form a modern window. Above it is a window of two trefoiled ogee-headed lights under a square head with a moulded label. In the south wall is a four-centred light in a square head. The clock-chamber has a north

window of one light with a square head, and in the east wall is a blocked four-centred doorway which opened into the roof-space of the aisle. In the south and west walls are clock-faces and no traces of windows. The bell-chamber is lighted by four four-centred lights with square heads. The tower has a pyramidal roof from which rises a dwarf octagonal spire, all covered with oak shingles. Above the apex is a leaded post and weather-cock.

The south porch is modern and has a pointed entrance.

In the chancel are two chairs with carved high backs, one with turned and the other with twisted posts, legs, and rails: possibly late-17th-century. In the south aisle is a 17th-century oak chest with panelled front and ends, and three locks. The font is modern, of octagonal plan. In the westernmost window of the south aisle is an oval cartouche of the Crucifixion, foreign, of c. 1700.

On the west wall of the north aisle is a war memorial of alabaster with a figure of St. George, framed in wood.

South of the church in the graveyard are 28 table-tombs of the 17th and later centuries, and there are several 18th-century head-stones.

There are eight bells, one of 1628 and the others of 1936.⁴¹

The communion plate includes a cup, paten, and flagon of 1733, the gift of William Ellman, citizen and grocer of London. The flagon appears once to have had a whistle in the handle. There are also two contemporary leather cases with hinged lids, for the set.⁴²

The registers begin in 1539: they include the original paper-leaved volumes, one only 6 in. by 4½ in., and also the parchment transcription of 1597, continued on to 1676. There is also a rectorial-manor book with accounts from 1614 to 1892.

The church of Balcombe was given *ADVOWSON* to the priory of St. Pancras at Lewes by

Ralph de Chesney about 1091 and confirmed to them by William de Warenne.⁴³ It remained with the Priory until surrendered to the king at the Dissolution in 1537,⁴⁴ and the advowson was then granted to Thomas Cromwell.⁴⁵ After his attainder in 1540 it reverted to the Crown, who presented in 1549 and 1553.⁴⁶ In the latter year, however, it was granted to Sir Henry Sidney,⁴⁷ who sold it almost immediately to William Charnock.⁴⁸ The latter conveyed it for a time to his brother Roger, but eventually sold it in 1560 to Sir Richard Sackville.⁴⁹ The advowson of Balcombe Rectory then descended in the family of Sackville, Earls of Dorset,⁵⁰ until 1663, when Richard, Earl of Dorset, sold it to the rector Henry Whiston.⁵¹ From him it came in 1677 to his son Nicholas Whiston, who died in 1689 leaving two daughters, Elizabeth and Jane, who presented in 1692.⁵² The advowson, however, was claimed, as part of her marriage settlement, by Dorothy, sister of Nicholas, who married first Timothy Parker and secondly Walter Gatland, and in 1699 it was given up to Dorothy and Walter by the two nieces and their

³⁹ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 64; Cal. Newn. Doc. Lewes, ii. 19; Horsfield, *Sussex*, i. 260; Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

⁴⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 179.

⁴¹ There was formerly a 15th-century bell: *ibid.* xvi, 198.

⁴² *Ibid.* liv, 248.

⁴³ *Lewes Ch.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.) i, 17, 40.

⁴⁴ Feet of F. Div. Co. Mich. 29 Hen.

VIII.

⁴⁵ *L. and P. Hen.* VIII, xiii (j), g. 384

(74).

⁴⁶ *Cal. Pat. Edw. VI*, ii, 375; v, 275.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* v, 61.

⁴⁸ Add. MS. 39328, fol. 111.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

⁵⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccccv, 153; Recov. R. Trin. 1656.

⁵¹ Add. MS. 39328, fol. 13.

⁵² *Ibid.* fols. 12, 13; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.); Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 215.

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mother and her second husband Thomas Staunton.⁵³ But the claim was again disputed by Mildred Bray, who was eventually successful, and in 1701–2 she conveyed it to her daughter Sarah and her husband Thomas Chatfield.⁵⁴ Sarah survived her husband, presented in 1730 and 1746, and died in 1766,⁵⁵ when the advowson descended to her son John, and in 1778 to his son the Rev. Henry Chatfield, who died in 1819.⁵⁶ He left three daughters, Mary, Harriet, and Caroline, who with their mother sold the advowson in that year to

the Rev. George M. Bethune, of Worth.⁵⁷ After the death of the latter in 1840, and of his widow in 1849, it descended to their two sons, of whom the younger, Charles Goodwin, sold his right in it to the elder, George Cuddington Bethune. The latter conveyed it in 1861 to Thomas Joseph Torr, who sold it three years later to John Clutton,⁵⁸ who held it until the end of the century. Early in the present century it was acquired by Mr. P. Secretan,⁵⁹ from whom it passed to the Rev. Douglas Liston Secretan, the present holder and rector.

BOLNEY

Bolneya, Bolne (xiii cent.).

The parish lies on the western boundary of the rape and has an area of 3,617 acres; the soil is clay and gravel, and the subsoil clay and sandstone.

The elevation of the parish where it comes down into the valley of the Adur is under 50 ft., but rises northward, reaching 392 ft. on its northern boundary. The road from Cuckfield to Billingshurst runs from east to west across the parish, and is crossed in the centre by the main road from Brighton to London. The village is situated to the north-west of the cross-roads, the church being on a short road parallel to the main one, but a large part of the village is about half a mile north, on the west side of the main road, with Bolney Common (partitioned and enclosed in 1841) on the opposite side. Colwood Park and Wykehurst Park lie to the north-west of the village.

A road to Warringlid runs up the western boundary of the parish, and there are several small parallel roads between this and the main road.

There is a Baptist chapel in the village, and a non-sectarian Mission Room.

In 1934 a detached portion of Hurstpierpoint parish was annexed to Bolney.

'Howth Cottage', $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of the church, is a rectangular building of c. 1600 with some timber-framing visible, and wide fire-places in the central stone chimney-stack, which was rebuilt above the roof in 1713 and is dated. A cottage, now two tenements, next south-west of this, is a late-15th-century building facing east, lengthened by one bay to the south, probably in the 16th century. The original part retains the heavy chamfered tie-beam of the truss of the hall-roof with mortices for the former arched braces below it: the king-posts are not visible, but the usual curved braces show in the wall-framing, and there is also the beam that formed part of the former flue. An upper floor and a central stone chimney-stack were inserted in the hall in the late 16th century; another internal chimney-stack was erected when the house was lengthened. The northernmost room, ground floor, has the original wide flat joists of the 15th-century solar or buttery wing; the room south of the stack has a 16th-century moulded beam. The room next south also has heavy square joists, probably those of the other original wing, and the floor is tiled. The lower story has brick outer walls, and timber-framing is exposed in the upper story.

On the east side of the London-to-Brighton road stands Ford's Farm, now called 'Tudor Tea House', a private hotel. The house dates from c. 1500 and is of

a modified H-shaped plan, but was originally of T-shape, the main block containing the hall facing north and south, with the cross wing at the east end. Late in the 16th century the west wing was added, its south end flush with the south wall of the main block but projecting north to match the other wing: and two internal chimney-stacks were built, one at each end of the hall. The roof of the east range is in three bays divided by closed partitions, and, although all of one period, only the middle bay has smoke-blackened timbers; the bay evidently served as a huge flue from an open fire on the ground floor. The roof over the main block is of the wind-braced side-purline type and is also smoke-blackened. When the chimney-stacks and west wing were built upper floors were inserted where required to make the whole of two stories, upper ceilings were inserted probably later. The front, back, and east side have much of the ancient framing exposed outside. The house was afterwards divided into two tenements and two timber-framed projecting staircases were added against the north front in the angles with the wings: the eastern staircase has been removed. The lower story of the west wing is of stone and has a cellar below it: the upper story of the west side is tile-hung. The two gable-heads of this wing project on moulded bressummers and shaped brackets, and have moulded bargeboards. The other gables are plain. Some of the original windows with moulded mullions remain. Nearly all the rooms have open-timbered ceilings. The joists in the south room of the east wing are very heavy and evidently the two end bays of this wing were always of two stories. The fire-place for the middle room, projecting into this wing, is 9 ft. wide and has chimney-corner seats. The western stack has two wide fire-places: that towards the west wing has been fitted with an oak bressummer with guilloche carving and the date 1613, brought from a house near by, now destroyed.

Homewood House, about a mile west of the church, is probably a late-14th-century building, facing south. It had a great hall of two bays with the solar and buttery wings under the one continued roof, which is very steeply pitched. The wide flat rafters over the hall part are smoke-blackened, but there are no traces of a middle truss or of king-post construction, either because the house antedates this form of framing or because it has been destroyed for the 16th-century inserted chimney-stack. The west end of the former hall retains its original wall-beam of an obviously earlier moulded contour than those found in 15th-century halls. The inserted 16th-century floor has stop-chamfered beams

⁵³ Ibid. 216; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 16; 39328, fols. 13, 14.
Add. MS. 39328, fol. 13.

⁵⁴ Comber, op. cit. 89; Add. MS.

⁵⁵ Ibid. fol. 14; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁵⁶ Ibid.; Comber, op. cit. 89.

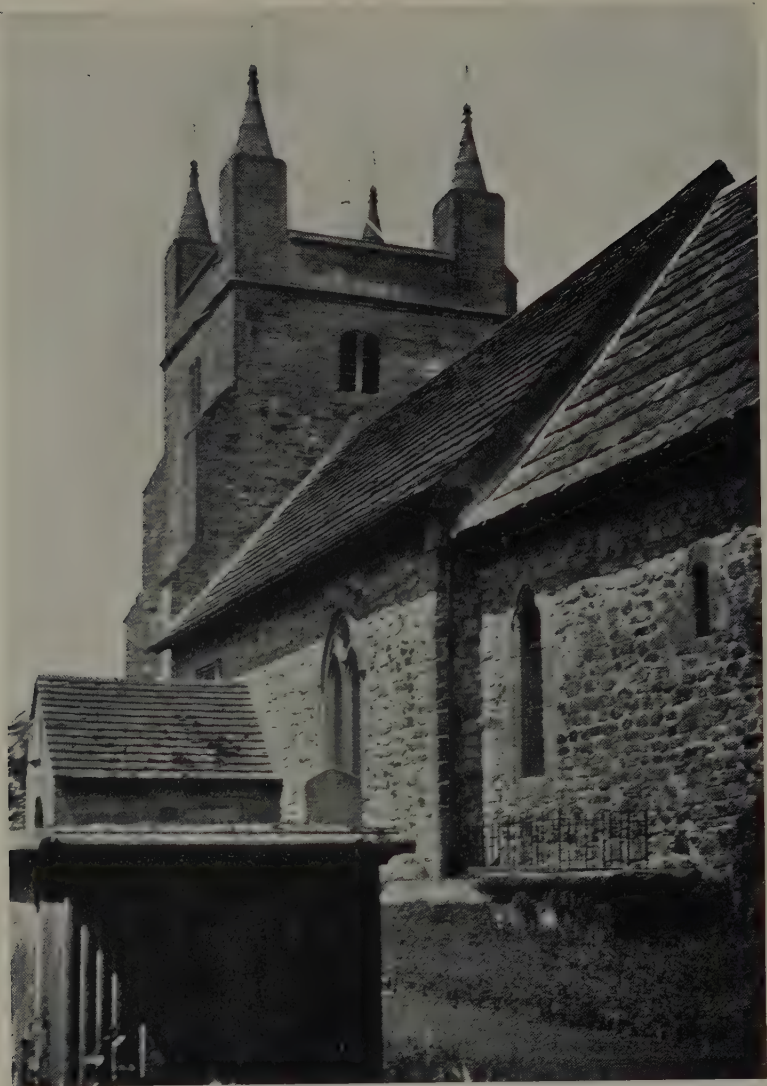
⁵⁷ Ibid.; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 16.

⁵⁸ Add. MS. 39469, fols. 17–25.

⁵⁹ *Chich. Dioc. Cal.*



BALCOMBE CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, 1805
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)



BOLNEY CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST

and joists: the wide fire-places are of stone with oak lintels. The lower story now has brick walls: the upper story is tile-hung: the eaves are very low and the upper story, partly in the roof, has gabled dormer windows flush with the wall below.

Chatesgrove, about 1½ miles north-west of the church, is a complete timber-framed house, with plastered infilling and Horsham slab roofs. It is of L-shaped plan, the wings extending to the north-east and south-east, each of these ends having a projecting gable-head on a moulded bressummer and with moulded barge-boards. One gable bears the date 1618. Several of the windows are original and have moulded oak mullions. Two of the chimney-stacks are of old thin bricks and are of the usual rebated type. The end room of the north-east wing, formerly the kitchen, has a good wide fire-place of stone with an oak lintel cut slightly to an arch and having a projecting shelf-moulding at the top cut from the solid. The end room of the south-east wing also has a re-tooled stone fire-place with an oak lintel. Both have old iron fire-backs. The ceilings are open-timbered with chamfered main beams and rafters, many of the latter modern. On the first floor the room above the old kitchen has a mid-15th-century moulded and embattled beam right across the room in front of the chimney breast: it must have been brought from elsewhere, as there are no other remains of this period in the house: the fire-place of brick has another old fire-back. The chamber at the end of the south-east wing is now open to part of the roof, the ceiling joists having been removed. It is divided into two bays by a truss that has curved struts on an upper tie-beam, and there is another tie-beam close below it: the side-purlins have straight wind-braces.

Chargrove, a cottage a little to the south, is also a timber-framed house of the 17th century, facing east. It has a wide stone fire-place and thin-brick chimney at the south end, and chamfered beams in the ceilings.

The Old Mill House, ¾ mile north-west of the church, is of late-16th-century date. The front of the main block has square framing in five bays, and the north end has a projecting gable-head on a moulded bressummer enriched with foliage or honeysuckle carving, and with carved scrolled brackets and a moulded barge-board with a pendant at the apex. The gable at the south end is plainer but has a moulded barge-board. The mill which was near by is said to have been used for making gunpowder. Behind (east of) the house is a large pond.

Bookers Farm is a 17th-century house and shows some of the original square timber-framing in the upper story. A barn near the house is of the 15th century. It is of three bays and has trusses with braced tie-beams and strutted king-posts carrying a central purlin. The framing of the side walls also has curved braces. The walls are weather-boarded, the roof tiled. Another rather derelict barn farther east, also of three bays, is only slightly later: the side-framing is similar but the roof appears to have been altered subsequently: it is thatched.

Pinehurst Farm, formerly South Gravelies, was built about 1580 and although the south front has been faced with modern bricks, old square framing is seen in the back wall. The interior has two wide fire-places and open-timbered ceilings. By the side of the central chimney-stack is the original central-newel staircase. The roof has queen-post trusses and side-purlins with straight wind-braces. The barn and a granary are

of the same period, all with heavy timber-framing. Gravelies Farm, formerly North Gravelies, has timber-framed walls, refaced about 30 years ago with brick, when the roof was also heightened, but it retains a 17th-century projecting chimney-stack at its south end with a rebated shaft and wide fire-place: there are also open-timbered ceilings.

Garstons Farm, south-west of the church, though largely remodelled, incorporates the hall of a 15th-century building to which there is no clue whatever in its external appearance. The hall was some 22 ft. wide and of two 12-ft. bays, and its middle truss is still practically intact. It has a heavy cambered tie-beam supported on shaped story-posts and very heavy curved braces forming a great four-centred arch below it: the spandrels of the arch between it and the tie-beam have each a short strut fitted into the open space. Any solar and buttery wings have been lost in the later changes: the one seems to have been replaced by a comparatively modern south wing: the other is perhaps indicated by the present north outside wall of the house. Late in the 16th century a new wing was built west of the north part, the upper floor was inserted in the hall, and the chimney-stack built in its southern bay. The east side-wall of the hall is missing and the present east front is about 6 ft. east of it: this is probably because the hall had originally an east aisle such as is seen in many of the local barns but rarely in the houses. With the 16th-century remodelling the aisle was heightened and the east wall furnished with gable-heads. Equally probable is it that the east end of the north solar wing projected to come flush with the wall of the aisle. The east elevation has rough-casting to the lower story and tile-hanging to the upper, and it has twin gable-heads. The west end of the north-west Elizabethan wing has an original square bay-window with lights to each story, with moulded posts, &c. The gable-head projects over the bay-window and has a moulded bressummer on carved brackets, almost concealed by tile-hanging, and a barge-board with apex post and pendant. The roofs are covered with Horsham slabs. Above this wing is an original shaft of cross-plan in thin bricks. The great central fire-place has a plain shaft of late-17th-century bricks; its fire-place is 10 ft. wide. The ceilings of the rooms on the sites of the north bay of the hall and of the north solar wing have stop-chamfered main beams and joists of the 16th century. The 16th-century wing has moulded cross-beams to both floors. The main staircase is of mid-17th-century date and has turned balusters and moulded handrail.

The barn of the farm is of three bays and of early-17th-century construction; it has an aisle with the roof continued down over it. A granary is of old timber-framing. The upper story has a 16th-century door which probably came from the house: it has a diamond-shaped top panel and six lower panels divided by moulded framing, which is nail-studded: it retains the original iron handle or grip with a trefoiled plate.

Coombe House, about 1½ miles south-west of the church, incorporates an ancient building of timber-framing. This was of L-shaped plan; the northern wing, which is now in part the entrance hall, dates from the 15th century and retains the original roof timbers. The other range, covering the south end of the north wing and extending to the east, was a rebuilding and addition, presumably of 1616, the date on its rebuilt gable. While the 15th-century part retains the first floor inserted in the 16th or 17th century, the

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west half of the other range has had its upper floors and partitions removed, in modern alterations, to form a great hall open to the roof. The projecting middle wing of the north front, containing the 15th-century remains, has a timber-framed gable-head: it projects a little and has a chamfered bressummer. The lower story has the present main entrance. At the south is the reset east gable-head of the south wing: it projects on a moulded bressummer and brackets and has a moulded barge-board and a pendant at the apex carved with the date 1616. The doorway in this front, to the lobby next the central chimney-stack, has a 16th-century door of three long panels, the muntins, &c., studded with nails. The roofs are covered with Horsham slabs. The 15th-century north wing retains in its south wall the original moulded wall-beam, and one bay of the hall roof is visible, with the usual strutted king-posts and braced central purlin. The inserted central chimney-stack has a wide fire-place. The central chimney-stack of the other wing also has two wide fire-places: that to the east has in it a Tudor fire-place of stone, and the original wide fire-place with lintel has been ascertained to be behind this. The rooms east of the chimney-stack have in each story a moulded ceiling-beam with a channelled soffit, and old timber-framing shows in the walls.

Dawes Farm, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north-west of Coombe House, is a timber-framed building of L-shaped plan with a staircase wing in the angle. The older wing, which faces west, dates from c. 1500 and it is interesting as being of a type that preceded the brick and stone chimney period, but which is later than that of the 15th-century great hall type. It is of three bays and two stories and attics (or roof space); the northernmost bay served only to take the open fire on the hearth and was partitioned off all the way up to serve as a great flue, of the full width of the wing, to carry the smoke to an egress in the roof. The roof timbers and plaster infilling in this bay of the roof are smoke-blackened and on the first floor the bressummer remains that formed part of the chimney-breast. About 1600 a brick chimney-stack was built in, in the bay, with a fire-place 8½ ft. wide and a space next west of it. In this space, on the ground floor, now a cupboard, there are also blackened timbers. The other wing, flush with the south end of this, and projecting to the east, is an addition of c. 1600 and covers an original window of four lights with diamond-shaped mullions in the east wall of the earlier part. It has a projecting gable-head at its east end on a moulded bressummer and shaped brackets and with a moulded barge-board. On each story in this wall there was a pair of small windows of two lights with moulded mullions (now blocked), and stop-chamfered posts on their inner sides indicate that they had originally a larger and taller window between them. On the north side is a projecting chimney-stack of brick with a crow-stepped gable and square shaft. The staircase wing in the angle is of timber-framing

and is gabled: it contains a 16th-century winding stair with an octagonal central newel.

There are also a number of small 17th-century houses, mostly with central chimneys, wide fire-places, and open-timbered ceilings; in the south of the parish are Nyes Hill Farm, Red House, Purvey Cottages, and Brooklands Farm; and north of the church are Butchers, now called 'Apple Tree Cottages' and South Lodge Cottages.

BOLNEY is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey, but in 1284 it was held by Earl Warenne and the Bishop of Chichester.¹

About this time the manor was held of the Bishop of Chichester, as of his manor of Preston, for a quarter fee, by Bartholomew de Bolne, and was defined as 800 acres in Bolney and Cuckfield.² He may have succeeded a Robert de Bolneya, mentioned in 1248.³ John de Bolney was the principal land-owner of the family in 1296⁴ and held the manor about 1310.⁵ In the middle of the 14th century there is mention of a John, who had a brother Robert and a son William;⁶ while another John appears to have been holding the property in 1423–6.⁷ Bartholomew de Bolney, who was living in 1446,⁸ had three sons, John, Richard, and Edward, of whom John died without issue before 1461, about which time Bolney manor was held by Richard and Edward.⁹ Edward also seems to have been childless, and when Richard died in 1500 the manor descended to his son John.¹⁰ A John Bolney, probably his son, died in 1558, his heir being his nephew John Bolney,¹¹ but his widow Anne, who married secondly Thomas Culpeper of Wakehurst, and thirdly Henry Barkeley, D.C.L., retained a claim on the manor during her life.¹² The nephew John had rights in the manor in 1577 and was still living in 1586.¹³ Anne Barkeley died in 1600¹⁴ and in 1626 Bolney was settled on Jane daughter of Sir Benjamin Pellatt,¹⁵ on her marriage with William Culpeper, Anne's grandson by her second husband. William became a baronet in 1628 and died in 1678. His grandson and heir Sir William Culpeper sold Bolney in 1690 to John Dennett,¹⁶ who died in 1727.¹⁷ His son John, who held Bolney until 1758, was succeeded by his sons John, who died in 1759, and Thomas, who lived until 1767–8.¹⁸ The manor then passed to John Lintott, widow of their sister Susannah, and at his death in 1781 descended to his son John Henry Lintott.¹⁹ The latter, who married Philadelphia Leppard, died without issue in 1804, and the manor passed to his wife's relations, the Leppards, who owned it in 1835.²⁰ In 1841 Richard Weekes of the Mansion House, Hurstpierpoint, sold his land in Bolney, which included Bolney Place, Garstons Farm, and the manor of Bolney, to his brother-in-law William



BOLNEY. Or a crescent with two molets gules in the chief.

¹ *Feud. Aids*, v, 129.

² *Customals* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 79, 134–5; Add. MS. 5683, fol. 44; Exch. Inq. p.m. mlxiv, 2.

³ Assize R. (Wood MSS.).

⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 47.

⁵ *Customals*, 134.

⁶ Add MS. 5683, fol. 44; Lay Subs. 2 Rich. II.

⁷ *Cal. Pat.* 1422–9, pp. 65, 169; Add. Ch. 15211.

⁸ Stowe MS. 632.

⁹ Early Chan. Proc. xxxvi, 43.

¹⁰ Exch. Inq. p.m. mlxiv, 2; Stowe MS. 632 makes John his grandson.

¹¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cxv, 39. Richard's son John was 15 in 1500, and as the John who died in 1558 had just married it is improbable that they were the same.

¹² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 52; Court of Req. cxv, 5; Comber, *Suss. Gen. Ardingly*, 127; M.I. in Bolney Church.

¹³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 52; Feet of F. Suss. Mich. 28, 24 Eliz.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*; Add. MS. 39488, fol. 387.

¹⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 52; *ibid.* xiv, 847. Sir Benjamin was holding the manor as early as 1617: Tr. of Rec. Misc. Bks. 157.

¹⁶ Comber, *Suss. Gen. Ardingly*, 129–30; *Recov. R. Mich.* 2 Will. & Mary, ro. 42.

¹⁷ Comber, *Suss. Gen. Horsham*, 79; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 52.

¹⁸ Comber, *Suss. Gen. Horsham*, 80.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* 215; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 53.

²⁰ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 250.

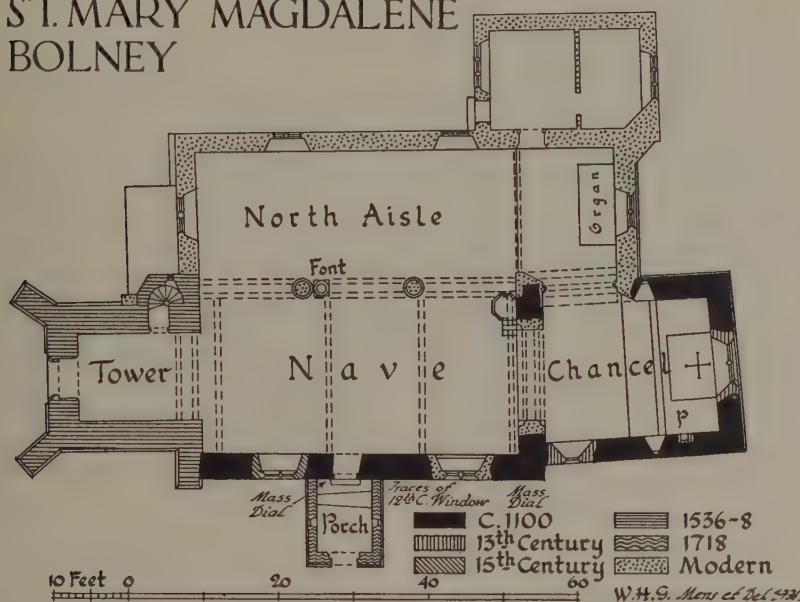
Marshall, who lived for some years at Bolney Place²¹ and was still holding the manor in 1870.²² Soon afterwards the manor-house and farm were occupied by Richard Hamshar, presumably on lease. About 1900 Henry Courage bought the house and farm and his eldest son Ernest lived there for a time, and subsequently Com. Archibald Vesey Courage, who sold Bolney Place in July 1935 to Mr. S. Sears, who still occupies it; but all manorial rights have lapsed. Garstons farm is now owned by Mr. James Galloway.²³

The church of *ST. MARY MAGDALENE* has a nave and chancel of about 1100, with windows inserted in later periods. The west tower was added in 1536-8: part-

jamb and head externally are rebated for a shutter and retain one iron hinge-hook at the springing-line and a catch for the latch.

The walling is of roughly coursed rubble with wide jointing and with dressed angle-stones: north and south of the east window are slight indications of former 12th-century windows. The east wall is gabled and has in the apex an old bulls-eye window to the roof-space. The roof is open-timbered, of trussed collar-beam type: the timbers are modern. It is covered with old Horsham slabs. The paving and steps are modern. In the south wall is a small simple 13th-century piscina with a pointed arch and a half-destroyed round basin. The communion table is

PARISH CHURCH of ST. MARY MAGDALENE BOLNEY



culars of its erection are found in the churchwardens' accounts; the arms of the donor, John Bolney, are carved in the west doorway. The south porch is dated 1718. The north aisle, with the nave-arcade of three bays, was added in 1853 and the north vestry in 1912. The chancel arch is also of 1853; the chancel roof was repaired in 1936, and some pointing, &c., done to the walls of both chancel and nave.

The axis of the chancel is deflected to the north of that of the nave. It is about 23½ ft. long by 18 ft. wide internally. The east window is of two pointed lights and a plain spandrel under a two-centred head: it has wide internal splays with angle-dressings and a hollow-chamfered rear-arch, and is of late-13th-century date. The wall, 3 ft. thick, sets back about 4 in. inside at the springing-level, and the window is set rather south of the middle of the wall so as to coincide almost with the axial line of the nave. In the north wall is a small round-headed window of c. 1100; west of it is a modern archway to the organ-chamber. In the south wall is a similar window and west of it a tall trefoiled light of the 13th century with wide inner splays with angle-dressings and hollow-chamfered pointed rear-arch: the

modern: behind it the wall is lined with five bays of early-17th-century oak panelling and the rest of the east wall and north and south return-walls have modern copies of it.

The chancel-arch is modern.

The nave (42 ft. by 20½ ft.) has a north arcade of three pointed arches on round pillars. The south wall is of rubble with wide jointing and less decisively coursed than that of the chancel. At the south-east angle are plain dressings: on one is scratched a sundial. In the south wall are two windows: the eastern, of two pointed lights and a sexfoil in a two-centred head, is modern. The western window is of the 15th century and has two cinquefoiled lights under a square head with an external label and segmental rear-arch. Just west of it are traces of a window of the 12th century. The south doorway is a tall and narrow one²⁴ of c. 1100, the chamfered jambs re-cut to widen the opening a little. The round arch is of two orders, the inner slightly recessed, and both with concentric mouldings on the face: there are indications of a former tympanum. The impost stones or abaci were chamfered: they have been cut back in the reveals, and the western also on the

²¹ *Ex inf.* Lieut.-Colonel Barnard T. Hodgson, C.M.G., V.D., T.D., M.A., LL.B., J.P.; cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 83.

²² Lower, *Sussex*, i, 61.

²³ *Ex inf.* Lieut.-Col. Barnard T. Hodgson.

²⁴ Only 3 ft. 1 in in the clear.

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face. On a west jamb-stone is a 'scratch sundial'. The reveals are slightly splayed and are of rough ashlar, the rear-arch, of square section, has roughly dressed inner voussoirs. In the east reveal is a deep socket, formed in a de-cored beam built in, for a former draw-bar. The door, of three plain battens on horizontal back-rails, is medieval. It is hung with plain strap-hinges and has an ancient oak lock, and key and escutcheon plates: the bolt of the lock fits into a wood socket above the draw-bar hole. The roof is of modern pitch pine of gabled trussed-rafter type. On the south side it is covered with Horsham slabs and on the north with red tiles.

The west tower (about 12 ft. square) is built of ashlar and has a moulded plinth, and a moulded string-course that divides it into two stages: at the western angles are diagonal buttresses of three stages: on the south side in line with the east wall is a square buttress and on the north side a stair turret, semi-octagonal at the parapet and lighted by narrow loops. The parapet is plain and has rather heavy square pinnacles at the angles, on which are tall conical finials and wooden ball-heads with copper weather-vanes. The opening from the nave has a four-centred arch dying on the side-walls of the tower, which have angle-dressings towards the nave. A four-centred doorway in the north wall opens into the stair turret: it has an original oak battened door with strap-hinges: there are similar doorways to the upper chambers. An 18th- or 19th-century doorway to a gallery about 10 ft. above the ground floor has been walled up. The west doorway has moulded joints and four-centred arch in a square head with a moulded label: the spandrels are carved with shields and vine-leaf and grape ornament: the north shield is charged with the arms of Bolney [or] a crescent and in chief two molets [gules], and the south shield with Bolney quartering St Leger [azure] fretty [argent] a chief [or.] The head is of old restoration. The pair of doors is ancient with modern external facings. One leaf has an oak lock inscribed GM, and in the reveals are sockets for a draw-bar. The west window is of three cinquefoiled lights and restored tracery under a four-centred head with a moulded external label and chamfered four-centred rear-arch. The second story has plain rectangular lights in three walls, and the bell-chamber a window in each of the four walls, each of two four-centred lights in a square head, partly restored. Inside are later brick rear-arches. Each story has an original ceiling of heavy plain beams and joists. The roof is slightly cambered.

On the masonry north of the west doorway is inscribed: 'This Stepl: is 66 Foot high.' The south porch is built of ashlar and has a round-arched entrance dated 1718; above it a tablet inscribed: 'DRURY BIRD V m^R IOHN DENNETT Thomas WEST Church Wardens': above that in the gable-head is a sundial of 1850.

In the tower is a 17th-century oak chest, 5 ft. 7 in. long, of hutch type, with three strap hinges and one lock: the front is divided into five panels by applied moulded styles, muntins, and rails. Another on the first floor of the tower is 6 ft. 7 in. long with strap-hinges and staples for three locks: 16th-century.

In the floor of the porch is a 13th-century tapering coffin lid of Sussex marble, 4 ft. 9 in. long by 1 ft. 9 in. wide at the top: it is carved with a cross in relief with a flowered head and long stem. Another longer tapering stone used as a step is probably also a coffin lid. The font is modern.

Above the chancel-arch is a painted and framed wood panel with the Royal Arms of Queen Anne in a Garter and with lion and unicorn supporters.

The churchyard contains many table-tombs of the 17th and 18th century.

At the south-west entrance to the churchyard is a large oak lych-gate of 1905 on dwarf walls of Sussex marble.

There are eight bells: the treble, second, and the fifth and the tenor were given by Michael Harmes and cast by P. Catlin in 1740: the seventh, also given by Michael Harmes, is dated 1724: the third has no inscription; the fourth is by William Eldridge, 1660; and the sixth by Robert Mot, in 1592.²⁵ The bell-frame is ancient.

The communion plate includes a cup of 1567 with a band of ornament engraved round the bowl and two patens of 1725 with the Dublin hall-mark.²⁶

The registers date from 1541.²⁷

The advowson of Bolney Vicarage **ADVOWSON** formed part of the Prebend of Hova Villa in the Cathedral of Chichester. It is mentioned in 1316.²⁸ It remained with the Prebendary until the middle of the 19th century, when it passed into the hands of the Bishop of Chichester,²⁹ who held it until, by an Order in Council of 13 May 1901, he exchanged the advowson for that of Etchingam, vested in Mr. Edward Huth, who thus became patron of Bolney. On 7 February 1929 Mr. Huth transferred the advowson to Exeter College, Oxford, his old college.³⁰

CLAYTON

Claitune, Claitona (xi cent.).

This parish has an area of 1,414 acres and is a long, narrow, irregularly shaped strip running up the side of the South Downs to an altitude of 700 ft. On the Downs are two disused windmills.¹ To the north the parish slopes downwards, and the main part has a level of about 100 ft. The village is at the southern end, at the foot of the Downs, at a height of between 200 and 300 ft. Here the road from Ditchling joins the road from the north going over Clayton Hill to Brighton,

and the Southern Railway enters a tunnel close by. The church is a little to the east, on a lane running at the foot of the Downs. There are waterworks on the slopes a little farther east. In the centre of the parish, a mile north of the village, the road from Lewes to Hurstpierpoint crosses the road running north from Brighton at a point known as Stone Pound, because the parish pound was formerly situated near by.² Buttinghill, the mound where the Hundred Courts were anciently held, is beside the road to Hurst,

²⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 200.

²⁶ *Ibid.* liv, 255.

²⁷ They have been printed, down to 1812, by the Sussex Record Society, vol. xv.

²⁸ *Cal. Pat.* 1313-17, p. 561.

²⁹ *Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.)*; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lv, 225; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 232; *Add. MS.* 39329, fol. 179. The first presentation by the Bishop was in 1849.

³⁰ *Ex. inf.* Lieut.-Colonel Barnard T. Hodgson, from the Chichester Diocesan Registry.

¹ *Suss. County Mag.* x, 219.

² Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 240.

behind Ham Farm. Clayton Wickham lies to the north-west of the cross-roads. The nearest station is Hassocks, a mile to the north-east of the village.

Under the Local Government Act of 1894 two civil parishes were formed, of Clayton, and Clayton Urban, the latter being included in Burgess Hill Urban District.³ In 1934 a further part was transferred to Burgess Hill, and detached portions to Cuckfield Rural.

The soil is loam and sand, and the subsoil clay and sand. The chief crops are wheat, barley, oats, and turnips.

Hammonds Place,⁴ now included in Burgess Hill, incorporates a timber-framed building of c. 1500 of rectangular plan, facing north, with a staircase wing on the south side. It was faced at both ends in 1566 in brick. The east front is built of red brick-work with diaper ornament in blue-grey bricks and has stone angle-dressings and plinth: this brick-work is continued round the north-east angle to meet the earlier timber-framing. The south end of the wall has a broken edge where it meets the modern brick-work of the south-east wing. In front is a two-storied porch-wing of similar material. It has a stone entrance with ornamental pilasters and brackets and a fluted frieze to the head. Above it is a small stone panel carved with fluted pilasters and a shield charged with a chevron engrailed between three harts' heads razed (Farnfold)⁵ and below it the date 1566. Above is a stone window. The head is gabled and bears the same date in modern figures. There are old stone mullioned windows in the main wall north of the porch; the roof is covered with Horsham slabs. The north elevation is of timber-framing, the easternmost bay is gabled: the framing is mostly of square panels, but in the head of the gable the panels are ornamented with ogee struts. In the middle is a large modern square bay-window to the dining room. Next the gabled part is a central chimney-stack of square plan with a plain pilaster on each face. The west end is of diapered brick and above it is a chimney-stack of two square shafts close together. The south side, with the stair wing, is of old timber-framing. A window to the upper story appears to be original: it is of two lights but was formerly of four. A window recently discovered in the east side of the stair wing (covered by the south-east wing) is of two lights with moulded mullions, and there was another of four lights to the second floor.

The east entrance doorway within the porch has an old moulded oak frame and opens into a passage running westwards. Immediately to the right in the north wall of the passage is a pair of oak moulded doorways, close together, into a small chamber which may have been a kind of buttery for a hall on the site of the modern wing to the south. The chamber has a 17th-century

fire-place and the chamber next west, with the large bay-window, has an open-timbered ceiling, but the fire-place is modern. The westernmost room, the kitchen, has a great wide fire-place with an oak bressummer, and next south of it a large oven. The same stack has on the first floor a stone fire-place of the 1566 period with moulded jambs and straight-sided Tudor arch in a square head; the spandrels are carved with grapes and vine-leaves. The staircase in the south wing has square newels with moulded square heads and moulded hand-rails of late-16th-century date, but the balusters are probably comparatively modern. The roof has plain side-purlins with straight wind-braces in some of the bays.



CLAYTON CHURCH

East of the church is a group of seven or eight houses, one of which is probably of the early 17th century and has square-panelled timber-framing in the upper story. The roof is thatched on the west side and tiled on the east side, and above it is a fine central chimney-stack of local rebated type with a V-shaped pilaster in the middle of one face.

The manor of *CLAYTON* was held of *MANORS* King Edward the Confessor by Azor, and after the Conquest was held of William de Warenne by the wife of William de Wateville,⁶ owner of the neighbouring manor of Keymer. After her death it was evidently retained in demesne by the Earls of Surrey,⁷ and descended with the barony of Lewes (q.v.) until the division of that property in 1415. Clayton then fell to the Duke of Norfolk and descended with that portion of the barony. In the 16th century it was thus held half by the Howards, Dukes of Norfolk and Earls of Arundel, and the other half by the Earls of Derby. In 1575 Henry, Earl of Derby, sold his moiety of Clayton to Richard Culpeper,⁸ and in 1588 he and others conveyed it to Anthony, Viscount Montagu.⁹ The other moiety was sold in 1610 to Edward Michelborne of Hammonds Place.¹⁰ He mortgaged it in 1621 to Robert Bromfield,¹¹ and by 1666 it was

³ For description see under Keymer.

⁴ *Suss. County Mag.* vii, 693-6.

⁵ Edward Michelborne, not being at this date armigerous, made use of his wife's

arms: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* i, 102.

⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 441.

⁷ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 339.

⁸ Feet of F. Mich. 17-18, Eliz.; *Recov. R. Hil.* 18 Eliz. ro. 929.

⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 105.

¹⁰ Add. MS. 39490, fol. 180. ¹¹ *Ibid.*

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in the hands of Sir Edward Bromfield, bart.,¹² who in 1678 sold it to Francis, Viscount Montagu,¹³ who thus became possessed of the whole manor.

Clayton then descended with the Viscounts Montagu until the end of the 18th century,¹⁴ and after the death of the eighth and last viscount in 1793 seems to have been conveyed for a time in 1800 to Sir Richard Bedingfield, son of his aunt Mary, sister of the 7th viscount.¹⁵ It reverted, however, to Elizabeth Mary sister of the 8th viscount and wife of William Stephen Poyntz,¹⁶ for in 1825 she and her husband and their daughters conveyed Clayton to George Courthope,¹⁷ from whom it was acquired immediately afterwards by William John Campion.¹⁸ It then descended with the Campions of Danny, Hurstpierpoint, the present lord of the manor being Col. Sir William Campion, K.C.M.G., D.S.O.

The custom of Borough English obtained in the manor.¹⁹ Fairs for cattle, sheep, and hogs were still held on St. John's Common, on July 6th and Sept. 26th, in 1835,²⁰ but these had ceased before 1888.²¹

The manor of *CLAYTON WICKHAM* [Wicham (xi cent.); Great Wykham (xvi cent.)] also belonged to Azor before the Conquest, and to the wife of William de Wateville in 1086, and was held of both of them by Alwin.²² It was in 1565 held of the lords of the barony of Lewes by service of $\frac{1}{10}$ of a knight's fee.²³ In the 14th century it was held by the family of Wysham.²⁴ In 1327 John de Wysham and Hawise his wife were possessed of land in Clayton;²⁵ in 1356 orders were given to distraint the heir of John Wysham for relief for half a fee in Wykham;²⁶ in 1398 Sir William Wysham gave seisin of a manor of 'Wykham' to Robert Oxenbridge and others.²⁷ Nothing further, however, is known of it until John Culpeper died seised of it in 1565, leaving it to his son Thomas,²⁸ who was succeeded in 1571 by his son Edward.²⁹ The latter died in 1630³⁰ and his son Sir William Culpeper mortgaged it in 1647 to Walter Burrell.³¹ In 1649 it was acquired from the two last-named by John Vinall,³² and William Vinall was holding it in 1664.³³ In that family it remained until 1717,³⁴ when William Vinall sold the manor to John Bridger.³⁵ Wickham remained in the Bridger family³⁶ until the early 19th century, when it was sold by Harry Bridger to William J. Campion, about 1825,³⁷ and thereafter was united to the manor of Clayton (q.v.).



BROWNE, Viscount Montagu. *Sable three lions passant bendwise between double cotices argent.*



BRIDGER. *Argent a chevron engrailed between three crabs gules.*

The custom of Borough English obtained in the manor.³⁸

The parish church of *ST. JOHN CHURCH THE BAPTIST* consists of a chancel, a lofty nave, north porch, and modern south vestry. The walls are of flints with much mortar and with large angle-dressings on the south side of the nave. The chancel walls and the north wall of the nave are coated outside with cement, concealing the angle-dressings. The south wall of the nave has a thinner coating through which some of the flints are visible. The lower parts of the nave-roof and north side of the chancel roof are covered with old Horsham slabs; the remainder is red tiling. Above the west end of the nave is a shingled square turret with a pyramidal roof.

The nave and probably part of the chancel, with the chancel-arch, are of pre-Conquest date; as may be also the north doorway to the nave. In the 12th century a small transeptal chapel was added north of the nave: parts of the arch to it are still visible, and its size was ascertained by excavation in 1918. Recesses, presumably for side altars, were also cut in the wall on either side of the chancel-arch. Early in the 13th century another transeptal-chapel was added south of the nave. Later in that century the chancel was lengthened and lancet windows inserted. The north porch was a 15th-century addition or replacement, and probably the bell turret is of the period of the two 15th-century bells. The church was restored in 1893, when the unusually extensive painting of the Doom was discovered in the upper parts of the nave.

The chancel (19½ ft. by 13½ ft.) has a modern east window in the form of a triplet of lancets: the jambs and mullions are shafted. It has a four-centred moulded label outside, perhaps of a former 15th-century window, and a segmental, chamfered rear-arch also with a moulded label with head-stops. In the north wall are two lancets of the 13th century with chamfered external jambs and head: the splays inside have a recessed order with nook-shafts cut from the solid; the foliage capitals and moulded rear-arches are modern. In the south wall are two lancets, similar but without the nook-shafts; the rear-arches are hollow-chamfered and have hood-moulds with modern head-stops. The roof is modern and has a panelled ceiling with moulded ribs and carved bosses.

The 11th-century chancel-arch has jambs and round head of similar section, a square order with an attached half-round 10-in. shaft or roll on each of three faces, so that those to the east and west project from the main wall faces: they are interrupted by plain chamfered imposts of square plan. The bases are plain square blocks of modern stone or cement. On either side of the archway, towards the nave, is a round-headed recess. The northern retains some ancient plaster: its sill is 3 ft. 7 in. above the floor and it is 3 ft. 11 in. high. The southern is completely of modern plaster.

¹² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 105.

¹³ *Ibid.*; G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iii, 179. Possibly, therefore, his father Sir John Bromfield had held it.

¹⁴ *Recov. R. Hil.* 4 Geo. I, ro. 160; *ibid.* Trin. 7 Geo. III, ro. 281; Add. MS. 5683, fol. 82.

¹⁵ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iii, 152; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 107.

¹⁶ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ix, 103; *Recov. R. East.* 5 Geo. IV, ro. 228.

¹⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 105.

¹⁸ *Recov. R. Trin.* 7 Geo. IV, ro. 265.

¹⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 179.

²⁰ *Horsheld, Sussex*, i, 241.

²¹ *Roy. Com. on Market Rights*, 208.

²² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 441; Farrer, op. cit. iii, 339.

²³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 26, 73.

²⁴ Cf. Blomfield, *Norfolk*, ii, 288.

²⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 1703.

²⁶ *Lewes Ct. R.* (Norfolk muniments).

²⁷ *Cal. Close*, 1396-9, p. 420. The document is dated at Clayton.

²⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 26.

²⁹ *Ibid.* 73.

³⁰ *Ibid.* xiv, 317.

³¹ *Ibid.* xx, 489.

³² Add. MS. 39504, fol. 202.

³³ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 489.

³⁴ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 165.

³⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 489.

³⁶ Add. MS. 39504, fol. 202; *ibid.* 5684, fol. 165.

³⁷ *Horsheld, Sussex*, i, 240; Lower, *Sussex*, i, 116.

³⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 180.

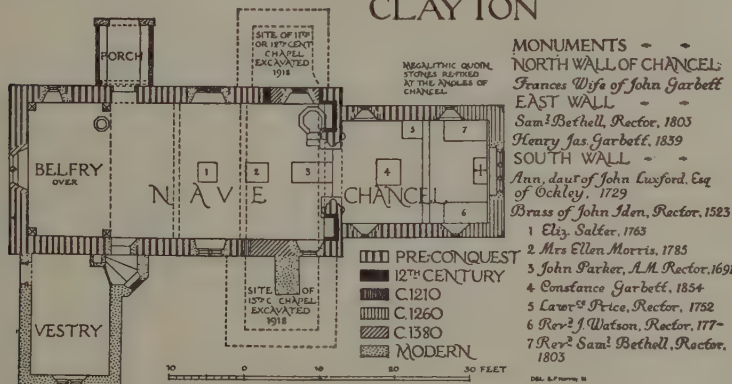
At the east end of the north wall of the nave is a blocked round-headed archway to the former 12th-century chapel. Outside, the stones of the jambs and springing stones of the arch are exposed, and inside are seen two voussoirs above the west jamb. It seems to have had a square-headed window inserted in the filling in the 14th or 15th century, and the filling-in of this has a modern one-light window. Above the blocked archway outside are the marks of the gabled roof of the former chapel. The second window in this wall is of two lights and tracery, all modern: it is set high in the wall: the third, near the west end, is another low piercing of one light. The north doorway, between the second and third windows, is a plain 3-ft. opening with square jambs and round head. In the south wall is a blocked larger archway with a pointed

to the early north doorway. The tie-beam which formerly crossed the doorway has had its middle part removed and an arch of wood has been put in to match the door-head. The tie has curved braces below it.

In the north doorway is a medieval door hung on plain strap-hinges: it is of plain battens and has ancient moulded back-rails and an oak lock. The font and other furniture are modern. On the west bay of the nave, on north, south, and west walls, is a high dado of early-17th-century panelling.

In the chancel are two brasses.³⁹ One is the figure of a priest in mass vestments and holding a chalice and wafer: below is the black-letter inscription:—‘Of yo^r charite pray for the soule of Mayst^r Rychard Idon pson of Clayton & Pykecū whiche decessed the vi day of January the yere of our lord god Mⁱ v^o and xxiiii on

PARISH CHURCH of ST. JOHN the BAPTIST CLAYTON



head, which opened into the former south chapel. The apex and voussoirs of the west half of the arch are exposed inside: outside it is nearly all hidden by cement facing and a deep, modern buttress. In the filling is a modern one-light window and high up in the middle of the wall is a pointed two-light window like that opposite. A doorway farther west opens on to steps leading up to a modern vestry. In the west wall is a 14th-century window of two trefoiled ogee-headed lights under a square head, with a moulded label outside.

The bell-turret is carried on four modern posts of pitch-pine inside the nave, but there are two ancient beams in the soffit.

East of the bell-turret the roof is of three bays of 15th-century framing. It has three trusses with heavy plain cambered tie-beams, and king-posts with curved longitudinal braces under a central purlin: in the easternmost and the third truss the king-posts are also supported by struts from the tie-beams; the common rafters, collar-beams, and braces between them are all ancient wide timbers laid flatwise: the boarding is modern. The wall-plates (ancient) are continued up to the west wall.

The north porch is of about 1500, remodelled or perhaps rebuilt in modern times. The side-walls are of old timber-framing, plastered, on modern dwarf walls, and the east wall has modern brick facing outside. The north front with the entrance is modern. There is one ancient truss to the gabled roof, close

whose soule Jhu have mercy Amen.' The other, in the floor, is an inscription only, to Thomas a Wode, 1508-9.

On the east and north and south walls of the nave are the remarkable paintings discovered in 1893.⁴⁰ Above the chancel-arch is a vesica piscis with the seated figure of Christ in judgement, flanked by worshipping Saints: below it is a band of foliage which also borders the chancel-arch. Below this, on either side of the chancel-arch, are (south) another richly vested figure of Our Lord with cross-nimbus and a red cross—a chalice to the south of Him, and (north) a kneeling figure, probably of St. Peter, receiving the keys of heaven and hell.

On the north wall, at the east end, is a hexagonal enclosure with trefoiled arches in which are three nimbed figures thought to represent the Holy Trinity. East of it is a large angel and west of it St. Peter with a pastoral staff. West of him is another angel facing three men in ecclesiastical vestments, and then a procession of figures with low crowns or caps, and at the west end an angel blowing a trumpet. Below the latter half is an angel with red wings assisting the dead to rise from their tombs. On the south wall are angels, a large red cross with several saints worshipping, four richly vested ecclesiastics, and a number of other persons as on the north.

Below the north paintings appears to be an Elizabethan panel with a black-letter text.

In the churchyard lies a large round stone, 3 ft. 8 in.

³⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxvii, 147-8.

⁴⁰ Described (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* xl, 211)

by the late C. E. Keyser; he attributed them to the late 13th or early 14th cen-

tury, but found traces of earlier decoration in the form of shafts and round arches.

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diameter and about 11 in. thick, pierced through the centre, reputed to be the base of an early font. Two tapering flat slabs close to it may be old coffin-lids.

Of the three bells, two are of pre-Reformation date: the first, inscribed 'Sancte Toma Ora Pro Nobis', has the foundry mark of Henry Jurdan of London, c. 1470, and the third the mark of Richard Hille of London, c. 1420-40. The second is by Samuel Knight of Reading or London 1713.⁴¹

The communion plate includes a cup of 1796 and two patens of 1744.⁴²

The registers are said to date from 1601.

The churches of Clayton and Keymer, *ADVOWSON* which have always been connected, were given by William de Warenne to the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes about 1093,⁴³ and remained with that monastery until the Dissolution.

In 1342 John de Warenne, overlord of Clayton, claimed right of presentation by grant of the king, who had taken the advowsons held by Lewes Priory into his hands on account of the war with France.⁴⁴ In 1353 it was enacted that the Prior of Lewes was to receive half the tithes of certain fields in Clayton and the rector the other half.⁴⁵ In 1537 the advowson was surrendered by the prior to the king,⁴⁶ and in the following year was granted to Thomas Cromwell.⁴⁷ In 1553 it was granted to William Sackville,⁴⁸ and in 1559 John Sackville presented.⁴⁹ In 1577 Edward

Knight was the patron,⁵⁰ but it was acquired subsequently by John Whitinge, who died in 1599, holding it of the queen in chief by knight's service.⁵¹ His son Thomas was holding it in 1602⁵² but shortly afterwards parted with it or leased it to the Michelbornes. Edward Michelborne, who had presented for this turn in 1601,⁵³ was holding it in 1610,⁵⁴ and in 1614 conveyed it to Henry Campion.⁵⁵ It seems to have been acquired shortly afterwards by John Batner. In 1626 presentation was made by Richard Batner, and in 1638 by Anne Batner, widow of the late incumbent, who as Anne Chowne, widow, presented in 1640.⁵⁶ William Newton, surviving trustee of John Batner, is said to have sold the advowson to Anne's third husband Magnus Byne, and in 1671 Stephen Byne his son presented.⁵⁷ He sold it to Edward Blaker, who presented in 1677, and in 1682 William Blaker.⁵⁸ In 1691 Edward Luxford held it, but apparently in trust for his sister Anne Watson, widow, daughter of John Luxford, and she presented in 1715.⁵⁹ By 1720 the advowson had been acquired by William Northmore, lord of the manor of Keymer, who in that year conveyed it to Abraham Addams,⁶⁰ but by 1724 it had come into the hands of another Stephen Byne, together with Laurence Price, the second husband of Anne Watson.⁶¹ Price in 1726 conveyed it to Thomas Browne,⁶² in trust for Brasenose College, Oxford,⁶³ who made their first presentation in 1752,⁶⁴ and still hold it.

CRAWLEY

Crauleia, Craule, Crawle (xiii cent.).

Crawley parish has an area of 780 acres and consists of two small portions of land on the north-western borders of the rape. The town, which is mostly in Ifield parish, is situated at the crossing of the main road from Brighton to London and that from Horsham to East Grinstead, and a strip of parish, barely $\frac{1}{2}$ mile wide, and with an elevation of about 200 ft., extends north on the east side of the main road. A little farther south, on the west side of the road, is a detached portion, in parts a mile broad. This continues south through Pease Pottage Forest, sloping upwards to Buchan Hill, 400 ft., and including Shelley Plain, south of it, which reaches an altitude of 468 ft.

Crawley has a railway station on the branch-line from Three Bridges to Horsham, which runs just north of the road from that town. There is a Roman Catholic Church and Capuchin Franciscan monastery there, established in 1861, and there are Congregational and Baptist chapels, a Salvation Army Hall and a Gospel Hall. The ecclesiastical parish of St. Peter, West

Crawley, was formed in 1901 from the parish of Ifield, which has now been amalgamated with Crawley.¹

The soil is clay and marl, and the subsoil clay. The chief crops are wheat, barley, and oats.

The house known as 'the Priors' House',² now a café and shops, on the east side of the High Street, is a timber-framed building erected about 1450. It had a great hall of two bays of c. 10 ft. and solar and buttery wings with projecting upper stories on the west front. The usual upper floor was inserted in the hall in the 16th century and the central chimney-stack built in, in the northern bay of the hall. A wing was added behind the south wing probably early in the 16th century. The west front shows the timbers of the hall and has next to the north wing a doorway with a four-centred and square head with the spandrels carved with shields and foliage. The projecting upper stories have plain bressummers on the ends of heavy joists, and curved brackets: only one bracket, next to the doorway, is ancient, and much of the framing appears to be modern.³ Framing in the north side-wall and at the

⁴¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 205; lvii, 25.

⁴² *Ibid.* liv, 237.

⁴³ *Lewes Ch.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), i, 21, 40.

⁴⁴ *Cal. Pat.* 1340-3, p. 543.

⁴⁵ *Lewes Ch.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), ii, 57.

⁴⁶ Feet of F. Div. Co. Mich. 29 Hen. VIII.

⁴⁷ Pat. R. 29 Hen. VIII, pt. ii.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* 7 Edw. VI, pt. xii.

⁴⁹ Add. MS. 39332, fol. 84.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

⁵¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cclviii, 108.

⁵² Fine R. 44 Eliz. pt. i, no. 37.

⁵³ Add. MS. 39332, fol. 85.

⁵⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 104. Richard Michelborne died in 1607 seised of 'certain great and small tithes' in Clayton:

Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccci, 83. His son Sir Richard is said to have taken advantage of the lameness of the incumbent to exact more than his fair proportion of tithes. Lawsuits were held between Sir Richard and John Batner touching tithes: Exch. Dep. by Com. Hil. 21 and 22 Chas. I, no. 2.

⁵⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 104.

⁵⁶ Add. MS. 39332, fol. 85. But in 1626 Nicholas Challoner is named as the 'true patron'. He presented John Batner, who in 1628 married Anne Wane. He died in 1638 and his widow married William Chowne and later Magnus Byne, both clerks. She died in 1662: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lv, 223.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* liv, 29.

⁵⁸ Add. MS. 39332, fol. 86; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 30.

⁶⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 252.

⁶¹ *Ibid.* 104; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 30.

⁶² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 252.

⁶³ *Brasenose Quater-Centenary Monographs* (Oxf. Hist. Soc.), vi, 50.

⁶⁴ Add. MS. 39332, fol. 86; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

¹ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1938). For local government purposes Crawley is in West Sussex: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxiv, 244.

² *Ibid.* lv, 12-16.

³ Cf. *ibid.* frontispiece.



CLAYTON CHURCH: CHANCEL ARCH AND PAINTINGS



CLAYTON: HAMMONDS PLACE, c. 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



CRAWLEY CHURCH: THE TOWER



CRAWLEY: THE PUNCH BOWL

back of the hall block is also exposed. The roof is covered with Horsham slabs and the central chimney-stack is of the usual rebated type.

The lower part of the middle block has a 16th-century floor showing stop-chamfered beams and joists in the ceiling of the lower story. The moulded posts of the middle truss of the hall show in the side walls and support a highly cambered tie-beam, also moulded, which had curved braces forming a four-centred arch below it: above the tie-beam is another arch, of the full width of the hall, below the collar beam. The south bay, the one complete, has moulded wall-plates and side-purlins reinforced by curved wind-braces that form four-centred arches. The south wing has a king-post and central-purlin roof of the usual 15th-century type. Over the north wing is a cambered tie-beam supported by curved braces, but the construction above it is hidden by the ceiling. There are two 16th-century fire-places in the central chimney-stack, towards the north wing, one to each floor, with moulded jambs and flat four-centred arch in a square head, the spandrels carved and the top of the stone head corbelled. The staircase next to the central chimney-stack is of the 16th century and of semi-winding form: at the top are symmetrically turned balusters. The lobby, on the other side of the chimney-stack, into which the front entrance opens also has ancient four-centred doorways in its north and south walls. The early-16th-century south-east wing has a chamfered cross-beam to the ground-floor with curved brackets under the ends and some of the ceiling joists are original wide flat timbers. The fire-place in this room is 9 ft. wide. Set in the south wall is a 10½-ft. length of a beam, 1 ft. 4 in. deep, which has a late-15th-century moulding along the top and a series of six cinquefoiled pointed arches cut in the lower part as panel-heads, with traceried spandrels. It is presumably not in its original position but is said to have always been here in living memory. The building is said to have once been the White Hart Inn and this chamber was its tap-room.

A small house farther north on the east side of the road, now known as 'The Old Punch Bowl Café', was once a farmhouse called Mitchells: another name seems to have been 'Black Dog Farm'.⁴ It dates from the early 15th century and had a hall of two unequal bays, 12 ft. and 8½ ft., with a north solar wing and south buttery wing. The wings have projecting upper stories on the west front and the eaves of the hall block is brought out to the same plane, the eaves-beam being supported by curved braces, from the sides of the wings. The south wing has been underbuilt with 18th-century brickwork. By the side of the north wing another wing parallel with it was added in the same century: it also has the upper story jettied on the west front. The house has been partly reconditioned, but many of the original timbers remain in the walls of the hall and two north wings: those of the south wing are later repairs. One half of the original pointed doorway to the screens next the south wing remains in position. The present entrance in the north solar wing is modern. Two of the upper windows have 16th-century mullions, and

inside one are seen the mortices of the triangular mullions of an earlier window. An upper floor was inserted in the hall and the chimney-stack (partly of stone) built in, on the site of the screens, in the 16th century: it has an 8-ft. fire-place, and the room has an open-timbered ceiling. The middle truss of the hall has double-chamfered posts supporting a cambered tie-beam that has lost the braces below it. It carries the usual king-post with longitudinal braces below a central purlin. In the closed north wall the tie-beam has the curved braces—one partly destroyed for a doorway—and the king-post is strutted from the tie-beam. The south wall—now skeletonized—was similar. Similar king-post and central purlin construction is continued over the two north wings; the roof of the south wing has been altered. One of the two doorways—now blocked—to the buttery from the hall, with a segmental arch, is still in place at the back or south side of the chimney-stack, and another to the solar at the east end of the north wall. The roof is tiled and the central chimney-stack is of the local rebated type.

Two other (separate) buildings on the same side of the street south of the Prior's house have 17th-century chimney-stacks but have otherwise been completely disguised by modern alterations.

The manor of *CRAWLEY* is not mentioned in Domesday Book, but at an early date formed part of the possessions of the Poynings family. It appears to have been held of the Earls Warenne, and later of their descendants the Earls of Arundel.⁵ Michael de Poynings in 1202–3 received licence to hold a market there every Friday, for which he gave the king a good Norway goshawk.⁶ In 1279 his descendant Luke de Poynings claimed not only a free market on Fridays, but a fair on the eve and day of the Decollation of St. John the Baptist⁷ (Aug. 28).

Crawley descended in that family in the same manner as Twineham⁸ (q.v.) until 1545, when it was conveyed by Sir Robert Southwell and Margaret his wife to Edward Shurley⁹ of Isfield. At Edward's death in 1558 Crawley descended to his son Thomas Shurley,¹⁰ who died in 1579, leaving the manor, with market and fair, to his son John.¹¹ At Sir John's death in 1631 Crawley came to his daughter Jane the wife of Walter Covert, on whom it had been settled at her marriage,¹² and it then descended in the Covert family, in the same manner as Slaugham¹³ (q.v.), until it came to Anne daughter of John Covert and wife of Sir James Morton, who conveyed it in 1707 to Leonard Gale.¹⁴ At the death of the latter his estates were divided between his three daughters and their husbands, Sarah and Samuel Blunt, Elizabeth and Henry Humphreys, and Philippa and James Clitherow, who were holding thirds of Crawley manor in 1750 and 1756.¹⁵ Eventually the whole manor devolved upon Philippa's husband James Clitherow, and their son James, who were holding it in 1791.¹⁶ The younger James died without issue, and the lordship passed to Colonel Clitherow, who was holding it about 1834.¹⁷

The Manor House, and probably also the manorial

⁴ Ibid. 16, 17; *Suss. County Mag.* vi, 139–43.

⁵ *Feud. Aids*, vi, 525; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 91.

⁶ Pipe R. 4 John, m. 10 d.

⁷ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 755.

⁸ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 49 Edw. III, pt. 2, 1st nos. no. 22; *Cal. Close*, 1392–6, p. 315; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 25 Hen. VI, no. 24;

Suss. Rec. Soc. xx, 447.

⁹ Ibid. xix, 239.

¹⁰ Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Lewes), 252.

¹¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 91.

¹² Ibid. xiv, 293; Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Lewes), 253.

¹³ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. 2), cccclxvii, 187; *ibid.* cccclxv, 55; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx,

400; xix, 114.

¹⁴ *Recov. R.* East 6 Anne, ro. 46.

¹⁵ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 175; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 355; *Recov. R.* Mich. 24 Geo. II, ro. 472; *ibid.* Mich. 30 Geo. II, ro. 393.

¹⁶ Ibid. Hil. 31 Geo. III, ro. 38;

Burke, *Landed Gentry*.

¹⁷ Ibid.; Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 264.

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rights, were later acquired by Mrs. H. F. Montefiore. She died in 1915 and the Manor House was then bought by M. Jacques Mend de Coste, but no manorial rights could be shown to have been conveyed to him when, after his death, early in 1934, Sir Francis Montefiore, son of the former owner, repurchased the estate. On the death of Sir Francis the Manor House, together with such interest as he had possessed in the manor of Crawley, was bought late in 1936 by Mrs. Brown. All manorial rights appear, however, to have lapsed.¹⁸

The church of *ST. JOHN THE CHURCH BAPTIST*¹⁹ consists of a chancel with an organ-chamber and vestry north of it, nave, north aisle, and a west tower. The only ancient parts of the structure are the south wall of the nave, probably of the 14th century, and its roof, a good example of early-16th-century construction. The west tower was added c. 1470, but at the top of the west front is the inscription 'Rebuilt 1804'. Evidently the old material was largely re-used, but the rebuilding must have been complete from the ground, as the moulded top member of the plinth is now set upside down. The church was restored in 1845 and again in 1880 when the north aisle was added.

The chancel is entirely modern. It has an east window of three lights and tracery. The nave has a modern arcade of seven bays. In the south wall are three modern or completely restored windows. The middle window is of two plain four-centred lights under a square head; the other two of two cinquefoiled lights under a segmental-pointed head. Between the first and second windows is a plain segmental-pointed doorway, now blocked, probably of the 14th century. In the reveals are sockets for a draw-bar.

The tower is of three stages and is built of ashlar with a moulded plinth and embattled parapet. At the west angles are heavy diagonal buttresses, gabled at half-height. The east angles have square buttresses. The segmental-pointed archway, 9 ft. wide, opening into it from the nave, is moulded on its west face and rebated for a pair of doors on its east face: the hooks for the hinges remain in place. The inner reveals and rear-arch are chamfered: the former have broach base-stops. The west doorway, of late-15th-century date, has moulded jambs and a high segmental-pointed arch in a square head with traceried spandrels and a moulded label. The door, mainly reconstructed, retains the original styles and arch of the framing: these are enriched with running tracery. The west window above is of three cinquefoiled lights and vertical tracery in a two-centred head: it is modern except for the rear-arch. There are also modern north and south windows of two lights. In the second stage are reset three shallow niches, one above the other; the lowest and smallest is modern and contains a small figure of a man wearing a doublet down to the knees and having his hands crossed in front of him. Below it in the string-course is a shield in which is a circle enclosing a sort of eight-pointed Solomon's seal, perhaps a merchant's mark. The middle niche has a trefoiled ogee head and spandrels with balls, in a square head with a label. In it is a small man with a large head and a pleated doublet, his hands to his sides. The top niche has a trefoiled four-centred

and square head with a moulded label having head-stops: at the sides are pilasters, now almost formless. In it is a figure of St. John the Baptist holding a dish. Above it is a small window with a label, and there are similar windows to the north and south sides, all with two-foiled heads.

The bell chamber has four square-headed windows of two trefoiled lights. Above the western is a skeleton clock-face behind which is the inscription mentioned above.

At the south-east angle is a stair turret entered by a segmental-headed doorway and lighted by loops.

The nave-roof is of three and a half double bays divided by braced and moulded tie-beams (three). The easternmost is carved with an inscription in black-letter divided into two parts by a central floral device. The inscription reads: 'Man yn wele be war, for war[l]dly good maketh man blynde: be war be for whate comyth be hinde'. The three intermediate trusses have collar-beams with arched braces below them, and moulded principal rafters: under the ends of these are panelled wall-posts on corbels; most of the posts are treated with detached small shafts forming niches with cinquefoiled ogee-heads and open sides, and in the solid over them are shields. The westernmost of these on the north side is carved with an interlacing monogram and that opposite is charged gules three crowns or. The corbels are mostly moulded, those on the north side being modern. One on the south side is carved with a grimacing head. The roof has side-corbels supported by arched wind-braces.

The 15th-century font, in the tower, has an eight-sided tapering bowl of marble with slightly panelled faces, and a cylindrical stem surrounded by four shafts with moulded capitals and bases, and a moulded main base. North of the west doorway is a holy-water stoup with a half-destroyed basin. The pulpit dates from the 17th century.

In the nave floor are two brasses.²⁰ One set in a Petworth marble slab, 5 ft. 2 in. by 2 ft. 2 in., is the small figure of a lady in early-16th-century costume; she wears a pedimental head-dress with embroidered lap-pets, bodice with tight sleeves and fur cuffs, and a full skirt below which her feet appear, and an embroidered girdle with a pendant end: the inscription is missing. The other, set in a Petworth marble slab, 4 ft. 11 in. by 2 ft., is an inscription to William Blast, 1438-9.

There are two bells by Thomas Lester, 1742.²¹

The communion plate consists of a chalice with the hall marks for 1579; a paten of 1722; another chalice, flagon, and alms-dish, of silver, given in 1848.²²

The register of baptisms begins 1653-4; of burials 1676; and of marriages 1688.

The advowson of the 'free chapel' or *ADVOWSON* chantry of St. John the Baptist at Crawley early belonged to the lord of the manor.²³ At the time of the dissolution of chantries it was regarded as the parish church, and the priest had the tithes of the village.²⁴ In 1542 the living is referred to as a rectory,²⁵ and the presentation continued to descend with the manor, being attached as a chapelry to Slaugham.²⁶ Jane daughter of Sir John Shurley presented in 1638 with her second husband John Freake, and with her third husband Denzil Hollis in 1661.²⁷ In

¹⁸ *Ex inf.* Messrs. Knight, Frank & Rutley, London; Messrs. Wood, Son & Gardner, Crawley.

¹⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lv, 1-11.

²⁰ *Ibid.* lxxvii, 155.

²¹ *Ibid.* xvi, 206.

²² *Ibid.* liv, 249.

²³ Wrottesley, *Ped. fr. Plea R.*, 409; Feet of F. Div. Co. Trin. 23 Hen. VIII.

²⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxvi, 58, 171.

²⁵ *Ibid.* xix, 239.

²⁶ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.); Lower, *Sussex*, i, 124.

²⁷ *Ibid.*; Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (*Lower*), 253.

1718 the king presented by lapse, but after that the advowson was again held by the lord of the manor, Leonard Gale, and continued with it, descending to the Clitherow family.²⁸ The living in 1924 had annexed to it that of St. Peter, West Crawley, formed in 1901 from the parish of Ifield, but the two livings were not held by the same incumbent until 1 January 1929. Presentation is made alternately by Lt.-Col. Thomas Claud Clitherow, D.S.O., and the Bishop of Chichester.²⁹

On the south-west of Crawley was the ancient parish of Shelley, the rectory of which was closely associated with the manor of Woodmancote, in the rape of Bramber. In the reign of Henry III the advowson of Shelley was held by William de Hautentoft and Isabel his wife; their son Thomas died without issue and left as coheirs his three sisters Nichole, Lucy, and Olive, of whom Lucy died without issue.³⁰ Nichole married John de Hartridge³¹ and had a daughter Elizabeth who married first John, son of George de Percy, who died in 1339³² leaving three children, William (then aged two) his heir, John, and Margaret. Elizabeth then married William de Burton and with him disputed the right of presentation to Shelley church with her cousin William de Northo, son of Olive, in a lawsuit which dragged on for at least ten years.³³ In 1341 William and Elizabeth settled their moiety of the advowson on themselves with remainder in default of issue to her children by her first husband.³⁴ In 1354 John de Farnebergh and Elizabeth his wife (perhaps a daughter of William and Elizabeth) made an agreement by which this half of the advowson should go after their deaths to William son of John de Percy and Mary daughter of William Filliol and their issue or the right heirs of William Filliol.³⁵ Sir William Percy died in 1407 and Mary in 1420, without issue, and the estate went to her

nephew William son of John son of William Filliol. His wife Joan survived both him and her second husband Sir William Cheyne and died in 1434, when the advowson passed to her son John Filliol.³⁶ The other moiety had been settled in 1357 by Olive's son William de Northo and Denise his wife on themselves for life with remainder to Thomas de Grofhurst and Margery his wife (probably their daughter) and her issue, with contingent remainder to Sir Michael de Ponnynges;³⁷ but no more is known of it.

The church of Shelley was valued in 1291 at £4 13s. 4d.;³⁸ but by 1341 about half the parish had been either imparked or allowed to go out of cultivation.³⁹ In 1404 it was among the benefices exempt from taxation through poverty.⁴⁰ Sir William Percy presented a rector in 1407,⁴¹ but in 1428 there was only one householder in the parish,⁴² and in 1478 Bishop Story reported that 'the church of Shelley is vacant because there are few inhabitants there, and the rector of Slaugham takes the issues'.⁴³ About 1510 the church became a chapel attached to that of Crawley,⁴⁴ in which parish Shelley Plain now lies, while the manor and park were absorbed into the parish of Beeding. The chapel of Our Lady continued in use till the suppression of the chantries, and in 1585 Richard Smallam, then aged 97, could remember helping to serve mass there and that 'Our Ladies coate was decked with both sylvor and golde sowen thereon'.⁴⁵ The name was still coupled with the rectory of Crawley in 1631.⁴⁶

Jessy Goss by will proved 1 Jan. 1926 CHARITY gave to the Trustees of the Congregational Church of Crawley her cottage known as Princess Cottage. The cottage has been sold and the income of £12 15s. a year from the proceeds of sale is paid towards the general funds of the church.

CUCKFIELD

Cucufeld, Kukufeld (xi. cent.); Cokefeld (xiv. cent.).

The River Ouse in places forms the northern boundary of Cuckfield, and in the east corner it is crossed by the Southern Railway and part of the Ouse Valley viaduct, the nearest station being at Haywards Heath, 2 miles east of the town. In the north of the parish is Great Bentley Farm, and the ground slopes upward from the Ouse Valley to Little Bentley Farm and Wood, at an altitude of 200 ft. The centre of the parish lies from 300 to 400 ft. high, where the town is situated, but falls again to below 100 ft. in the south. There is a triangle of roads in the centre of the little town, that from Haywards Heath coming in from the east and branching to meet the main road from north to south in two places. This road runs north to Whiteman's Green, where a branch turns off westward to Slough Green. The north road passes through Brook Street, where there is a Mission Church. South of the town it runs south-west along the side of Cuckfield Park (to the north-west) to Anstye, where there is St. John's

Mission Church, and where five roads meet. One of these leads south to Legh Manor. Hanlye Lane turns east from the main street before it reaches Whiteman's Green, and leads past the Cuckfield Institution and Hanlye Farm to Borde Hill Lane, leading from Haywards Heath to Balcombe, which forms the eastern boundary. Holy Trinity Church lies at the south end of the main street. A stream winds across this part of the parish, forming the southern boundary of Cuckfield Park and then runs southward. The Baptist chapel was established about 1776; a Congregational chapel was built in 1832 and rebuilt in 1869, and there is also a Methodist chapel.

The soil of the parish is principally loam, with a subsoil of clay. The chief crops are oats and wheat, but there is a great deal of pasture.

The ancient parish of Cuckfield had an extent of about 10,500 acres. About 1875 the central portion was constituted a separate local government district, afterwards (1894-1934) known as Cuckfield Urban

²⁸ Ibid.; Recov. R. Mich. 24 Geo. II, ro. 406, 472; ibid. 30 Geo. II. ro. 393; Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 264; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxi, 209.

²⁹ *Ex. inf.* Rector of Crawley, the Rev. H. A. K. Baynes.

³⁰ *Tear Book 15 Edw. III* (Rolls Ser.), 401-13: the church is here wrongly identified as Shipley.

³¹ *V.C.H. Berks.* iv, 209.

³² *Cal. Inq. p.m.* viii, 225.

³³ *Tear Book*, loc. cit.; De Banco Mich. 24 Edw. III, m. 137.

³⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 1919.

³⁵ Ibid. 2136.

³⁶ Add. MS. 39504, fol. 423, citing Esch. Inq. 12-13 Hen. VI; Chan. Inq. p.m. 12 Hen. VI, 39.

³⁷ *Fines*, 2177.

³⁸ *Tax. Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), 136.

³⁹ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 380.

⁴⁰ *Reg. of Rob. Rede* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), i, 40.

⁴¹ Ibid. ii, 252.

⁴² *Feud. Aids*, v, 165.

⁴³ Add. MS. 39345, fol. 179.

⁴⁴ Ibid.; *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.) i, 335.

⁴⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxvi, 8, 170.

⁴⁶ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

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District. Soon afterwards the eastern portion was formed into what became the Haywards Heath Urban District. In 1934 these, with parts of Lindfield and Wivelsfield, were amalgamated to form the enlarged Cuckfield Urban District, with four wards. The rest of the old parish with detached portions of Balcombe, Clayton, and Keymer, became Cuckfield Rural Parish, including Staplefield, which had been made an ecclesiastical parish in 1848.

HAYWARDS HEATH,¹ a separate ecclesiastical parish, carved out of Cuckfield in 1865, was formed into a civil parish in 1894. It now has two ecclesiastical parishes, St. Wilfred's and St. Richard's. The station, opened in 1841, is a junction on the Southern Railway from London to Brighton for Lewes and East Grinstead lines. The Roman Catholic Priory of Our Lady of Good Counsel, a house of Augustinian Canonesses, was founded in 1886, and the church consecrated in 1897. The Roman Catholic church of St. Paul was built in 1930. There is also a Convent of the Holy Cross in Bolnore Road. There are Congregational, Methodist, and Baptist chapels. A weekly stock-market has been held on Tuesdays since 1868.

The Heath was enclosed in 1861.

The older part of Cuckfield village lies chiefly along the main street, which runs north and south, with a deflection at the south end to avoid the church, school, and other buildings about them. There are in the village a number of houses which retain chimney-stacks and other features of the 17th century, as, for instance, Marshall's, which has an ashlar front, Maltman's and Maberley's, which are timber-framed with tile-hanging, and a group of cottages near the church.

The Old Grammar School,² founded c. 1510, is still in use and has modern extensions to the east of it. It stands immediately north of the churchyard and is of a rectangular plan, about 60 ft. by 24 ft., with 2-ft. walls of ashlar sandstone, and is of two stories: there was formerly an attic. The roof is covered with Horsham slabs on the south side and tiles on the north. The building, which has beams like those at Legh Manor, Old Beech Farm, &c., is of the second half of the 16th century. It is of six bays from east to west.³ The south wall has a chamfered plinth and a moulded string-course at the first-floor level. In it are six windows, with moulded features, to each floor, all of three lights excepting the second from the east in the ground floor: this is of two lights and occupies the position of the original doorway, which has been re-set in a low wall east of the south wall. The east and west walls are gabled and have diamond-panelled and corbelled kneelers and the stumps of apex-pinnacles. The west wall has a three-light window to each story, and the east wall one to the upper story. On the north side is a projecting chimney-stack with two detached square shafts of thin bricks: it retains an original stone fire-place on the first floor. The bays of the ground floor are divided by moulded ceiling-beams with channelled soffits and carved stops, and between them are two lighter longitudinal beams of the same kind. The attic story was occupied until late in the 19th century by the schoolmasters. It has now been abolished and the roof to some extent reconstructed. The original transverse ceiling-beams were raised to a higher level: they are moulded like those below and have mortices for

former longitudinal ceiling-beams. The beams now serve as tie-beams to the trusses of the open roof. The trusses are of queen-post type and at least one seems to be ancient, although probably remodelled.

A house, now two tenements and shops, just north of the church on the east side of the main street, has a 15th-century south wing and an early-16th-century main block and north wing. The west front shows little detail of age: the two wings have gabled ends; the north gable retains an elaborately carved barge-board of c. 1500, the southern has been brought forward in brick, but the beams inside show that it formerly lined with the other. The upper story of the middle block appears to have been jettied flush with the faces of the wings. The interior of the south wing has heavy, wide, flat ceiling-joists to the lower story and in the roof space are two 15th-century king-post trusses dividing the three bays of the roof; the front bay of the roof has been modernized. The middle block—now much cut up by modern alterations—was of two-story hall-type of two bays. The lower ceiling preserves the original moulded main beams of c. 1500, one crossing the other, and the original hollow-chamfered joists remain except where they have been removed for the modern shop. The roof of the middle block has plain trusses and side-purlins with wind-braces of ogee curved form. One braced tie-beam is built close to the side of the earlier south wing, which here shows some of its original framing with curved braces. There is a roof of similar type over the north wing. Of later work are the fire-places and parts of a 17th-century staircase in the south wing.

Farther north on the west side of the street is 'Attrees', the residence for a short time of Henry Kingsley, the novelist, and popularly called 'Kingsley's Cottage'. The walls show early-16th-century framing in the front, partly restored, and there are open-timbered ceilings with plain beams and joists to both floors. The plan is T-shaped and there are inserted chimney-stacks with wide fire-places in the middle of the front range and at the west end of the back wing. The roof over the front range is of the 16th-century wind-braced side-purlin construction.

The Rose and Crown Inn, at the north corner of the loop-road to Haywards Heath, retains a late-16th-century projecting chimney-stack at its north end, with three detached square shafts set close together under a single capping.

Macaulay House, formerly Ockenden House, the seat of the Burrell family, stands west of the village and is mostly of 16th-century timber-framing but has a short wing at the south end, of stone, probably added after a fire in 1608.⁴ The plan extends back, to the west, behind the east range, in an irregular fashion and contains the principal entrance to the north, and west of it the main staircase, while beyond are the kitchen and offices. Some part of these buildings is probably of the 17th century, but a fire-place on the first floor suggests that here also may have been some of the earlier 16th-century house. Additions and alterations were made in 1858. The south wing of ashlar projects eastwards from the main front and is of two stories and attics, marked by moulded string-courses, and has a gable head with corbelled kneelers and ball-finials. The windows are original, as is the four-centred doorway.

¹ Hayworth, Heyworth (xiii cent.); Haywards Hoth, Heywards Hoath (xvii cent.).

² *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 416-21.

³ The westernmost bay is said to be a modern extension, but the ashlar coursing

in the south wall is unbroken.

⁴ *Reg. of Cuckfield* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 136.

On the south side is a projecting chimney-stack which carries a fine range of five detached square shafts of brick. The east range, of timber-framing covered with rough-cast cement, is low, the upper windows being semi-dormers in the roof. In the middle bay is a gable-head and in front of it is a gabled porch-wing with an overhanging upper story on moulded bressummers, and a moulded barge-board. The outer entrance is now filled in, but the old four-centred inner doorway of oak can be seen inside the present library, which has a stone fire-place with a four-centred head and some plain late-16th-century panelling with fluted pilasters; the room next south and the rooms above them are similarly treated. The room in the stone-built part has a stone fire-place with carved mouldings, foliage spandrels, and a key-block with the initial B, probably of the 18th century. The room has early-17th-century panelling with fluted pilasters, and a plaster ceiling of exotic character. The rooms above, on the first and second floors, have similar panelling, and another bedroom in the westernmost wing also has a Tudor fire-place and panelling.

Cuckfield Park dates from c. 1580. The plan is now rectangular about a long and narrow courtyard the longer sides facing approximately north and south and entrance being in the east front. The original plan was probably L-shaped, consisting of the present east range and the range north of the courtyard, with the stair-hall in the angle; but the north range has been much altered externally. The pantry, &c., closing the west end of the courtyard, seems to be of the 18th century. There are some rain-water heads dated 1738 which may be contemporary with this west range as well as with much of the fenestration in the north front. The south range, containing the drawing-room and dining-room, was added in 1848-51.⁵ The two wings extending from the west end, containing a conservatory and the kitchen and offices, are modern.

The building consists of a basement—mostly cellars under the east range, but with windows in the other ranges—and two stories above, and there are attics to the east range. The ground floor of the south range is level with that of the east range, but that of the north range is level with the first quarter-landing of the staircase, five steps above the entrance hall, the basement being loftier than the east cellars. This change of levels is probably the result of 18th-century alterations.

The walls are of brick, nearly all concealed by a stucco facing, and the roofs are covered mostly with Horsham slabs, but in parts (at the back) there is tiling.

The east elevation is symmetrical, with a two-storied porch-wing in the middle. The entrance to the porch, which seems to be modern,⁶ has moulded jambs and a four-centred arch all cemented. The inner doorway has chamfered jambs and arch. The first-floor window is of two lights. Above the entrance and below the upper sill-level are two moulded string-courses: the wall-face is recessed deeply between them and has a square stone with a panel carved with a shield of the arms of Sergison. The angles of the porch have three-quarter octagonal pilasters, with pepper-pot finials rising above the embattled parapet.

In the main wall on either side of the porch are four windows, the nearest narrow and the others of two lights with wooden frames, mullions, and transoms and

with moulded labels of cement, like the wall-face. The first-floor windows are similar but without the labels, and the wall has a moulded eaves-course and deep frieze. In the roof are five dormer windows, each of two lights and with extraordinarily large moulded cornices and gabled heads with tall oak pinnacle-posts at the bases and apices. Both the cornice and gable of each are covered with lead and in the tympana are coats of arms also in lead. Above the ridge of the roof of this range is the tip of a higher gable of the main staircase wing: it has a barge-board carved with a guilloche ornament and an apex pinnacle-post and pendant. A similar gable-tip is in line with the south range but here the barge-board is plain and the gable is probably later. In the north elevation the end of the east range is gabled and has a pepper-pot pinnacle at the apex. The end of the west range is also gabled; it has a modern basement (kitchen) window, where the ground-level outside has been lowered. Between the gabled bays is a range of seven mid-18th-century sash-windows to the ground and first floors. The roof for the eastern two-thirds of the range is lower than that of the east range and covered with old slabs: in the western third—beyond the chimney-stack above the boudoir fire-place—it is still lower and covered with tiles.

The modern south front is symmetrically treated with a middle and two end gabled bays slightly projecting from the wall plane between, and each containing a three-sided bay window of two stories.

The back (west) wall has modern windows to the pantry and the back staircase. A small patch of exposed brick-work near the north-west corner shows late-17th-century red bricks with some random blue bricks. The chimney-stacks generally are rectangular and of old thin bricks, but most of them have modern square and twisted shafts above them. The south wall of the north range towards the courtyard is cemented; it has a doorway and modern window to the basement, three windows to the ground of two lights with wood mullions and transoms and plastered labels to the heads, and three similar first-floor windows, of which two are carried above the eaves as half-dormers with gabled heads. The north side of the south range towards the court is of whitened bricks and has somewhat similar windows. The east side of the court, the stair hall, is tile-hung, and the west side of brick.

The hall is the original middle hall and northern room now thrown into one chamber of about 42 ft. long. The original ceiling of the (former) north room is in place and it has been copied in the ceiling of the remainder. Between the hall and the south morning-room is a carved oak screen, and both this room and the former north room have original fire-places in the west wall. In the same wall are archways opening from the hall to the main staircase and to the corridor running down the north side of the south range. The old ceiling is divided into square panels by moulded ribs and is decorated with moulded pendants and designs in relief, floral, grotesque, and heraldic. The central square panel contains a shield with the arms and initials of Queen Elizabeth. The panels flanking the square contain a rose, fleur de lis, pomegranate, and portcullis respectively; other squares have a chequy shield, devices of an eagle, a horse rampant with a slip of oak in its mouth, a chained bull, and a spotted leopard; also a

⁵ W. V. Cooper, *Cuckfield*, 77.

⁶ A crude sketch made in 1681 (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 81) shows in this position

a three-sided bay, or oriel, window to the first and second floors; it is not clear whether it was continued to the ground-floor to form a porch.

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shield with a lion rampant, and a roundel enclosing a mounted knight wearing a checky cloak and bearing a checky shield.⁷

The fire-place has moulded stone jambs and a four-centred arch in a square head with plain spandrels. In it is an iron fire-back with the royal arms, the initials ER, and date 1585. Above the fire-place is an overmantel of three bays and two tiers divided by fluted pilasters and carved acanthus-leaf consoles: the lower panels have moulded and dentilled frames and the middle one is inlaid with lines of holly wood and ebony; the upper panels have enriched moulded frames and raised centres of mouldings and roundels with high relief lions' heads; a moulded and embattled capping above the lower panels breaks forward over the pilasters. The walls are lined with four tiers of early-17th-century panelling: there is a moulded cornice with beaded enrichment and over that a painted frieze of scrolled foliage.

The west wall of the south part of the hall—the former entrance hall—is lined with four tiers of late-16th-century panelling with a moulded capping and then another tier of panels inlaid with frames of alternate pieces of ebony and holly and divided by fluted pilasters, mostly replaced by plain muntins. The opening to the staircase is a segmental arch of oak with a middle pendant post and half-pendants against the reveals. The opening to the corridor is similarly treated, but the side-pendants are modern.

At the south end of the hall is the carved screen between it and the morning-room: the plain back of it is towards the hall, probably not the original arrangement: it is just plain panelling with two doorways containing 18th-century doors. The face towards the morning-room is divided into five bays by detached fluted shafts with Corinthian capitals; these carry an entablature which breaks forward over them: the frieze is fluted and beaded and on the projecting parts of it are carved in high relief the heads of various beasts—pigs, bulls, lions, and sheep. The second and fourth bays are the doorways and have enriched segmental arches with circular sinkings in the spandrels. The other bays are closed and have plinth panels with jewelled ornament, and upper panels with fluted pilasters having moulded caps, and enriched round arches; the tympana are filled with radiating fluting and the Sergison crest of a dolphin. The surface of each below the springing-line is treated with raised rectangular compartments seven in height and four in width, each with a jewelled or diamond-shaped facet. Above the entablature are five bays of panelling separated by pilasters carved as terminal figures of men carrying on their heads bunches of fruit, &c. The upper cornice breaks forward over them and between them the soffit is carved with jewelled ornament. The panels are carved: the middle bay has a very elaborate oval cartouche with seated allegorical figures above holding swords, winged cherubs below, masks, &c., round the date 1581: a scroll above bears the words PIETATE LVSTRA. The others have enriched strap-work frames with monsters' heads, &c., about shields and badges. On either side of the middle are the arms of Bowyer⁸ and Vaux; and the westernmost panel has a lion crest with the motto 'Gardez la foy'.

The fire-place is of stone and is flanked by oak

fluted pilasters, carried up to enclose the overmantel, of which the lower panels are inlaid with lozenge patterns in lines; the upper have enriched round arches and foliage spandrels; a frieze above is decorated with inlaid patterns and jewel ornament. The room is lined with six tiers of panelling, some of it of the late 16th century and some modern. The ceiling is open-timbered, with old stop-chamfered beams and modern joists.

The main staircase, which rises from the basement to the second floor, is of open well type with equal flights of five steps on four sides. It has 7½-inch square newels with turned square moulded heads and pendants, 3¼-inch turned symmetrical balusters, and moulded handrails. In the north wall in the basement is a good original oak doorway with a moulded frame having base-stops carved with double scrolls: it has an ancient plain door with an original iron lock with strap scutcheon-plates. Another ancient chamfered oak doorway opens into the cellar under the hall. The ground floor of the north range is level with the first landing of the stair above the hall: it has a lobby with late-16th-century panelling from elsewhere, and a passage along the south side with 18th-century panelling. The boudoir, entered from the passage, has a modern stone fire-place flanked by pairs of fluted Ionic shafts of oak on pedestals carved with strap ornament. The mantel moulding is enriched with carving and has the date 1579: it breaks forward over the pairs of shafts where it is carved (south) with the initials HB tied together by a knot and (north) H E also knotted, for Henry and Elizabeth Bowyer. The three bays of the overmantel contain frames of strap ornament: the middle has a shield carved with the arms of Bowyer, impaling Vaux with five quarterings. The room is lined with Elizabethan panelling in bays, with doors to match. In the angles are fluted pilasters with Ionic caps and panelled pedestals: a frieze is divided in panels of strap-work and jewel ornament; probably the whole of the panelling is re-set work. The room next west, an office also entered from the passage, is lined with late-16th-century panelling, a little later than that of the boudoir, and a fluted frieze.

The modern drawing-room, forming the middle part of the south range, contains a late-17th-century north chimney-piece. The fire-place is of marble with a deal surround, having side-pilasters with consoles and applied festoons of foliage, a frieze also with applied carving of fruit and flowers, and a moulded and dentilled mantel-shelf. The overmantel is a large panel with an applied cartouche having palms and swags of fruit and foliage and pendants, all of the Grinling Gibbons style of carving. The dining-room—the westernmost chamber of the south range—has a fire-place of stone, dated 1594, re-set from elsewhere. It has side-pilasters with trophies of fruit, &c., and a mantel or lintel with the date in a small middle panel flanked by trophies of musical instruments, &c., two oval panels with the initials H^BE tied by ribands, &c. An iron fire-back with the Stuart royal arms and supporters is dated 1618. The mantel-shelf is modern. The overmantel is of two deep oak panels with carved moulded frames, divided and flanked by pilasters carved with foliage. The room is lined with early-17th-century panelling in seven tiers, not all of one period, and partly modern.

⁷ The roundel about the knight contains an inscription which, being choked with whitewash, is not legible. The checky charge is for Warrene; the devices refer to

later overlords of the manor, the Stanleys, Howards, Nevills, and Mowbrays.

⁸ Arms of Bowyer of Cansiron, in East

Grinstead (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxx, 164). Henry Bowyer, the builder of the house, married Elizabeth Vaux.



CUCKFIELD PARK: THE GATE-HOUSE



CUCKFIELD CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, 1802
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)

On the first floor the room over the boudoir, in the north range, is lined with late-16th-century panelling and has a west fire-place with fluted pilasters and a plain overmantel. The room next west is also lined with like panelling and has a west overmantel in two tiers of two dates of late-16th-century panelling, three bays wide, the middle lower bay having an applied central carving of the half figure of a man and grape ornament. The passage cut off the south side of this range is lined with 18th-century panelling, but at its west end is an original (16th-century) moulded oak door-frame with moulded base-stops. There is some early-18th-century bolelection-moulded panelling in the rooms of the east front and in rooms over the drawing-room.

The second floor of the east front is a range of five attic bedrooms, all entered from a corridor by moulded oak door-frames of the 16th century, with battened doors hung by ornamental strap-hinges. No distinctive roof construction is visible.

Some way in front of the east entrance is the isolated gate-house of late-16th-century brick and of two stories; it has octagonal angle-turrets rising above the main roof and lighted by loops: those to the first floor are bulls-eyes and round-headed lights. The gateways have cemented four-centred arches in square heads with hooks for former gates, and the first floor has east and west windows of three square-headed lights with moulded mullions, jambs, and labels. The parapets of both main part and turrets have an odd collection of pinnacles on them, some with moulded finials and some shorter with lozenge facets. The gateway inside is paved with Purbeck slabs. The south-east turret contains a stair-vice, the others are cupboards: the upper part of the south-west turret has a clock with a wooden dial towards the house, and over it is a lead cupola for a bell. In the north-east turret, first floor, is a small arched fire-place. The upper main chamber has an open-timbered ceiling with plain beams and small joists: the turrets have heavy flat ceiling-joists.

An avenue of lime-trees leads up to the gate-house from the main road. A garden wall setting back, along the north side of the avenue, is partly of 16th-century bricks and contains a square window of some former building.

Slough Place, a mile north-west of the village, is a much altered house of which the back wing, facing south, dates from about 1540: the lower story of this front is of 18th-century brick; the upper story is tile-hung, but the old timber-framing is exposed inside. The west end retains an original chimney-stack: it has a great fire-place, 11 ft. wide, and is built of red brick with diaper ornament in blue headers. It has a crow-stepped gable and a great square shaft with a V-shaped pilaster on each face. The room which it serves is now a kitchen, but appears to have been the original hall, with the passage next east of it, and has chamfered ceiling beams: another beam on the first floor is stop-moulded. A door on the first floor was probably the original front door: it is of three long panels with moulded styles and muntins and moulded back-rails: it has plain strap-hinges and had an oak lock. A lower wing to the north of the kitchen seems to have been an early outbuilding; it is built of 16th-century bricks on stone foundations and has an 8-ft. fire-place and a similar chimney shaft.

Whitehouse Farm, about 1 mile west of Slough Place, is a mid-16th-century house. The lower story has walls of late 17th-century red and black bricks;

the upper story is tile-hung, but the timber-framing has lately been exposed internally and shows several curved braces of the period. The roof over the north-east end has the typical wind-braced purlins and wide flat rafters, but over the other part the timbers appear to be of somewhat later alteration. The great chimney-stack is at the south-east end and has a wide fire-place and rebated shaft of thin bricks with a V-shaped pilaster on the other face. The chimney-stack at the other end is a later addition, as it covers (above) the original framing and plaster infilling of the gable-head. Some of the original plaster, on interlacing lathing, is decorated with dotted markings made with the point of a five-toothed comb instead of the more usual lined combing.

Pain's Place, about 2 miles south of the village, is of L-shaped plan; the main block, facing south, is of about the same age as Slough Place and has an end chimney-stack of the same design, except that the crow-stepping of half the gable has been removed. In it is a wide fire-place on the ground floor and a Tudor stone fire-place of plain design on the first floor. The back wing, extending northwards from the east end with a central chimney-stack, is an early-17th-century addition, as is probably the westernmost bay of the main block, as well as a semi-winding staircase built in the angle of the two ranges. The house has suffered many changes in later times: no timber-framing is visible externally, but within the angle staircase both wings show the framing with curved braces, and the south range has a moulded oak window-frame on the first floor, evidently put out of use when the stair was added.

Lyes Farm, east of Pain's Place, was a small late-16th-century house of timber framing, facing south and with a projecting chimney-stack of stone on its north side. This was enclosed by a late-17th-century enlargement. Above it is the original brick shaft, of a cross plan, with the late-17th-century shaft built against its north side. Hook House, farther east, is a much repaired house with a chimney-stack of c. 1600 projecting at the west end. The front of the house is of modern brick, but some of the ancient timber-framing is exposed in the back wall, enclosed by a lean-to addition. Above the tiled roof is a modern central chimney-stack. Near by are Bridge House and Lower Ridges Farm, both of which have 17th-century chimney-stacks.

Legh Manor⁹ stands about 1½ miles south-west of the parish church. The oldest part of the house is the present south range, with a south porch-wing which dates from about 1540-50. On the north side, opposite the porch, was a small square vestibule which probably served as a combined entrance and stair-hall. The construction of the upper story of the range suggests that it was originally one long gallery, subsequently divided into two rooms with a middle passage. Later in the century the short north wing, probably for kitchen and offices, was added beyond the vestibule, pairing on the east side with the south range, to make the plan a modified H-shape. Probably the staircase was not removed from the vestibule to its present position in the north wing until later. There was a porch east of the vestibule before the present entrance-hall was built, but its date is uncertain. The entrance-hall and east porch were built for the late Sir William Chance, and other repairs and alterations carried out. The house and farm of about 100 acres have now

⁹ For a description by Walter H. Godfrey, F.S.A., and illustrations, see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxviii, 161-76.

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been presented by Lady Chance to the Sussex Archaeological Trust and the house is open to visitors: it contains interesting tapestries and furniture of various periods.

The south front has a brick plinth in which are two stone windows of two lights to the long cellar below the range, a later excavation; the entrance is in the east wall. Above the plinth the front is wholly tile-hung. The middle porch is gabled and has a moulded barge-board; the entrance has a moulded square frame but modern doors. None of the windows in this front is old. The roof is covered with Horsham slabs. The east and west ends of the range are of brick and have projecting chimney-stacks of diapered brickwork, each with two square shafts set diagonally. The main roof encroaches on the bottoms of the shafts, having been raised later. The east end of the north wing has a similar stack without the diaper. Between the ranges is the modern porch with a pent-roof against the modern east wall of the entrance hall. The north side is of plain brickwork below and has a stone mullioned window of five lights with a transom, all restored; the upper story, of timber-framing, is tile-hung and has an Elizabethan wood-framed window of five lights. In the west half of the wall is a similar four-light window to the lower story and above it a small two-light window. West of this, on the first floor, was a doorway into some further extension that has disappeared.

The lower story of the south range formed two chambers, the eastern a hall of three bays and the western a parlour of two bays, the screens-passage of the hall with north and south doorways being in the middle bay of the five. The hall has a moulded angle-post in each corner and the bays are marked by moulded transverse ceiling-beams, which meet a similarly moulded longitudinal beam, and wall-beams; all have channelled soffits, except that between the middle and west bays, which is carried on plain projecting story-posts and marks the position of the former hall-screen. The original north window is of six lights with a moulded middle master mullion. The south doorway has a moulded square frame with sunk facings and contains a fine old door of twenty panels formed by moulded and channelled muntins and rails, nail-studded: the back of the door is of sloping battens. It is hung by strap-hinges and has an iron knocker. The north doorway, to the vestibule, also has a moulded and channelled frame; in it is a plain old battened door. The east fire-place is modern. The parlour has similar moulded beams, partly renewed; the ceiling is plastered.

The south window is modern, but the moulded posts flanking it are ancient. In the west wall is a stone fire-place with moulded jambs and flat four-centred arch in a square head. The spandrels are carved with foliage and shields, the southern with I H and the northern with M H:¹⁰ above the arch is a frieze of fluted and dart ornament.¹¹

The upper story has a cross-passage occupying the middle bay, between the two bedrooms. The east bedroom—above the hall—has moulded story-posts in the angles; the western pair have shaped brackets at the top, now partly hidden by the partition. Against the flat plastered ceiling are moulded beams against the walls with deeper modern cornices above them. The west room is similar; but above the middle passage is a coved ceiling springing from the north and south

walls, said to be continued over the two bedrooms, but hidden from view. It is doubtful if the coving is original. The partitions between passage and bedrooms have each a moulded doorway with an old battened door. The west bedroom has a blocked north window of six lights with moulded mullions and iron middle stanchions. The exposed framing in the east room shows that there was a similar window there, and each room had two small high windows flanking the existing south windows; their stone fire-places are like that to the west parlour but have no initials. The middle passage has a moulded doorway in the north wall but no door. The south wall has an old chamfered door-frame and moulded two-panelled door opening into the room over the porch. Above the doorway is an open balustrade with short symmetrically turned balusters of about 1600.

The middle part of the plan consists of the modern entrance hall and the old vestibule behind it, with the rooms over them. The wall between the hall and the vestibule has been removed. The beam above it has a stopped moulding in the middle of it, indicating probably the position of the former wide entrance. A doorway, with old nail-studded door, from the hall into the east room of the north wing, was moved here from the north wall of the vestibule. The north doorway in the vestibule, formerly in the abolished east wall, with moulded posts and carved base-stops, leads to the staircase.

In the north wing the east room has a repaired stone window in the north wall, in which is reset a mid-16th-century shield of arms of Hussey, *ermine three bars gules*, and above it the name 'hwsee' in black-letter. The staircase has been reset west of this room, fitting rather awkwardly into the back room, which is now used as a pantry. It has a round central newel post cut off square at the level of the second floor. The steps are modern up to the first-floor level but above this they are ancient, with treads and risers of thick oak boards, except the two top steps, which are solid balks. On the ground floor the stair is partly supported by a post which appears to be a re-used beam with a channelled face. At the foot of the second-floor stairs is fixed an old battened door. The room over the vestibule shows old framing in the walls: besides the plain doorway from the staircase there appears to have been another west of it, probably earlier. Also in the west wall is an old chamfered doorway now opening into the modern part. The north-east bedroom has a moulded stone fire-place with plain spandrels. In the west wall the doorway has an old plain battened door with moulded rails, and the room is lighted by the wood-framed window in the north wall. The roof above the north wing has queen-post trusses and wind-braced side-purlins.

Anstye Farm, at the fork of the Brighton and Bolney roads, is a 15th-century house, facing north, retaining evidence of a hall-place of two bays and two-storied wing at the west end. The eastern bay dates from the late 16th century, when first floor and central chimney-stack were inserted in the hall. The north front shows framing, with curved braces to the original part and plain square framing to the eastern extension; most of the lower story has walls of later brick, but some of the story-posts remain from the ground upwards. The easternmost bay has stone foundations. The original

¹⁰ For John and Mary Hussey (c. 1540–50).

¹¹ There is similar ornament in the doorway of 1566 at Hammonds Place, Clayton.

ceiling-joists of the 15th-century west wing are exposed: those of the inserted floor in the site of the hall are stop-chamfered. Of the original roof the usual central purlin is visible, but the trusses are concealed in the plastered partitions.

Butler's Farm, about 500 yards south-west of Anstye Farm, is also of about 1450, consisting originally of a hall of two bays, with a two-storied wing east of it. The framing is much the same as at Anstye Farm but much more of it is exposed outside. Inside there remains the 9-ft.-wide inserted fire-place of the 16th or 17th century, reduced for a modern grate. The original east wall of the hall has a fine moulded wall-beam, partly mutilated, and an original two-centred doorway to the wing: the upper part of the same wall has old curved braces. Against the east face of the inserted chimney-stack is the middle roof-truss of the hall with arched braces below the tie-beam (one brace missing); most of the king-post is hidden by the upper ceiling. The south room of the wing has the original wide ceiling-joists exposed. The ground-floor rooms on the hall site have small stop-chamfered joists of the 16th or 17th century and north of the fire-place is a small entrance-lobby which has a moulded beam of the same period. The west wall of the house is entirely of modern brick: it is possible that there was another wing here.

In this neighbourhood are several ancient houses. Riddens Farm is apparently a late-16th-century house, retaining a good projecting chimney-stack at its east end, of stone, with three detached diagonal shafts of brick. The plan is rectangular, but the east bay is cross-gabled. Some of the original wood-framing is exposed, especially in the back (north) wall. Above the western part is a central chimney of late-17th-century bricks. There are wide fire-places and stop-chamfered ceiling-beams inside. Bishopstone Farm has been much altered, but retains evidence of a late-15th-century origin in its king-post roof-trusses and braced wall-framing. The north wall shows some of the old framing outside, but the east front is of red and black bricks of the early 18th century. Hilder's Farm is a small house of two bays with timber-framed front and back walls, and brick and tile-hung end walls. The house may be part of a larger one of c. 1600. Lovell's Farm is a mid- to late-17th-century house of brick and timber-framing covered with weather-boarding. It has a chimney-stack at each gable-end of the usual rebated type; there are old open-timbered ceilings, and a cupboard next to the southern wide fire-place has an early-17th-century panelled door. On or near the by-road from Slough Green to Anstye are several old buildings. Deak's Farm and Pondtail Cottage have features of 17th-century date. Hoadsherf Farm (or 'Hodshrove') has been much altered, but the north end has timber-framing exposed in the upper story, suggesting a 15th- or early-16th-century origin. Unfortunately all evidence, inside, of possible timber construction of the period is concealed. There are early-17th-century joists in the lower ceilings and a central chimney-stack with wide fire-places. A cottage just east of Hoadsherf has a chimney-stack inscribed I V 1722: it has brick and tile-hung walls and a tiled roof with hipped ends and is probably all of the one date. A road from west of Slough Green southwards past Broxmead has several ancient buildings. A farm-house, south of the Slough Green road and on the east side of the road, has exposed square framing to the upper story. A cottage on the opposite side of the road is probably a late-16th-

century building, showing some ancient timber-framing in the east front and a tiny original window with a moulded frame. Barnsnape Farm, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile farther south on the west side of the road, is probably of early-17th-century date. It is of rectangular plan with a middle lower wing behind showing some old framing; the main walls are of brick, the upper story tile-hung on timber-framing. Broxmead Farm is a large and tall building with walls almost entirely of timber-framing with plaster infilling, and of mid- to late-17th-century date. The plan is rectangular, with a low porch in the middle of the east front and a contemporary lean-to parallel outbuilding along the back part. All of these houses have 17th-century central chimney-stacks.

Near the junction of Broxmead Lane and Pickwell Lane is a 17th-century cottage now called 'Cuthedges', of old square timber-framing; and another house about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile farther east is of 17th-century origin and has walls of square timber-framing in four bays, weather-boarded at the back, on stone foundations. The central chimney-stack above the roof is of 18th-century and modern bricks, but inside are an original wide fire-place and open-timbered ceilings.

Old Beech Farm, just off the south side of the road from Cuckfield to Handcross, is a house of the second half of the 16th century. The gabled north end has original framing and a middle window of three lights, flanked by two small blocked windows: the gable-head projects and has a moulded bressummer on shaped brackets carved with guilloche ornament. There are other blocked windows in the east front, with moulded frames and mullions concealed by tile-hanging but visible inside. The central chimney-stack, of cross plan in thin bricks, has a fine wide fire-place of stone with chamfered jambs and arch, and above it is a moulded and enriched oak cornice to the mantel-shelf. Both ground- and first-floor ceilings have moulded and channelled beams like those at Cuckfield Grammar School, Leigh Manor, &c. The roof has queen-post trusses and side-purlins supported by straight wind-braces.

North of Slough Place is Bigg's Farm, a complete house of the first half of the 15th century, which had a great hall, a north solar wing, and a south buttery wing. About 1600 the first floor was inserted in the hall and, then or later, the second floor and the great central chimney-stack in the southern of the two bays of the hall were added. The walls of the lower story are of brick, replacing old timber-framing; the upper story is mostly tile-hung, but the north end shows old framing, including one of the curved braces typical of the period: the windows are latticed; one in the west front has a 16th-century moulded frame and ancient quarries. The roof, steep-pitched and with hipped ends, is covered with mossy Horsham slabs for two-thirds of its height: the top part is tiled. The (former) great hall retains its original 15th-century moulded wall-beam across the north end, where there is a doorway, with a pointed head, into the solar wing. The ceiling of the ground floor has 17th-century chamfered beams and joists. On the south side is a great fire-place with a huge flue above it and a very large hearth-stone. Close to the north wall there is a patch of pavement made up of floor-tiles shaped to form a pattern of octagons about squares, an unusual feature in Sussex, and perhaps original. The remainder of the floor is of very large irregular slabs. The southern room, the former buttery wing, has the original wide flat ceiling-joists and another wide fire-place. The first floor shows the framing, with curved braces, &c., in the

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upper part of the north wall of the hall, and in the middle, dividing the hall into two 11½-ft. bays, is the original roof-truss: this has a heavy cambered and chamfered tie-beam showing in the bedroom: mortices indicate former curved braces below it. Above the tie-beam is an octagonal king-post with a moulded capital above which are four-way braces.

In the great fire-place is an iron fire-back with the royal arms and initials C. R. and a pair of ancient fire-dogs which were discovered buried on the site.

Near by are Cleaver's Farm, Misbrooks Farm, and Little Misbrooks, all with 17th-century chimney-stacks.

Pilstye, 2½ miles north of the church, has two ancient houses close together; one of stone, dated 1647, is now the farm-house. The other, a timber-framed house of late-15th-century date, had a great hall of two bays of 12 and 13 ft., an east solar wing, and west buttery wing, each a 9-ft. bay flush with the hall. In the second half of the 16th century a great stone chimney-stack was inserted, filling the whole of the 12-ft. western bay, with a space south of it for the stairs and access to the buttery wing. The great fire-place has two circular domed ovens in the back of it, with two smaller ovens below them. At the same time the first floor was inserted in the hall-space. Early in the 19th century the original west wall was replaced by one of stone, and about the same time the roof was reconstructed. Two of the original king-post trusses were left, but the central purlin and the collar beams were removed. The western fire-place in the great stack was filled in and the chimney-stack was cut into above it to enlarge the bedroom in the wing. The south front is of timber-framing divided by story-posts into the four bays and retaining one curved brace in the side of the hall. The doorway opens direct into the middle room. The east end retains two of the curved braces, and the back of the same bay two others. The second bay from the west (the side of the chimney-stack) and the whole of the west wall are of stone ashlar, the latter with the date 1822. The central chimney-shaft, of thin bricks in a cross plan, appears unusually tall from the lowering of the roof. The middle room with the large fire-place has a 16th-century stop-chamfered transverse beam and east of it are stop-chamfered joists: those west of it between the beam and the chimney-breast are smaller and later. Between this room and the two rooms east of it (on the site of the solar) is an original partition made up of closely set battens with thinner boards between them. The ceiling in the solar wing has the original wide flat ceiling-joists, and the trimming in them suggests the position of a former stair against the north wall. The ceiling in the former west buttery has been more altered and has a chamfered middle beam and smaller joists. In the middle bedroom is a transverse beam above that in the room below: it has a series of mortices for former studs and may have had some connexion with the former smoke-flue to the great hall.

The stone building is of T-shaped plan, the stem pointing south. Both wings were gabled, but a third story was added in 1822. The original windows, of two or three lights, have moulded jambs, heads, mullions, and drip-stones. The principal entrance is in the east wall of the southern wing close to the northern cross-wing and has a round head with the initials and date H G A G 1647.¹² It opens into an entrance hall which is paved with 12-in. floor-tiles and has at its west end an early-18th-century staircase with 2-in. turned balusters

and plain newels: it cuts across a tall transomed window in the west wall. The room south of the entrance-hall has a simple ribbed plastered ceiling, a circle in a square with roses in the centre and spandrels. The other wing has two rooms; the western and smaller room also has a ribbed ceiling, patterned as a rectangle enclosing a circle and four small lozenge panels, each with a rosette centre. The other room, now the kitchen, has a north doorway, formerly external but now enclosed by an outbuilding: it has a four-centred head and horizontal drip-stone. Between the two rooms is a central chimney-stack: the kitchen has a 9-ft.-wide fire-place and next south of it is the original semi-winding staircase with some shaped flat balusters on the upper landing. The house possesses one iron fire-back of a late and unusual type, of concave plan with straight side-wings hinged to it: it bears a shield of arms charged with a fesse engrailed between three roundels.

Borde Hill Place, 1½ miles north-east of the church, is a large house built of local stone and facing north. It is all modern except the west end built in 1598. This was a rectangular structure facing west and having a middle porch: there was probably a kitchen wing at the back on the site of the present entrance hall, where some old masonry is incorporated in the north wall. The old part was roofed as two attached parallel wings with gabled ends to the east and west. In the 18th century the roofs were altered and a small gable was inserted between the two old gables on the west front. The gable-heads are coped and have typical pinnacles on the kneelers and apices. The walls of ashlar have moulded string-courses at the first- and second-floor levels. The drawing-room, which fills the north half of the block, has two north windows of four lights and west of them a three-sided bay window of five lights, and in the west wall a window of five lights, all with transoms, moulded stone mullions, &c. The square south-western chamber has a corresponding west window of five lights and a south window of four; and the stair-hall, the eastern part of the south half, another of four lights. The bay window has a plain parapet above the second story, and behind it is an original stone dormer-window of two lights with gable and pinnacles. The windows above those of the ground-floor are reduced by one light in each story. On the south side are two modern wooden dormer windows with gable heads. The west porch has a restored doorway with a four-centred arch in a square head, and above it is a three-light window. The head of the porch is of the 18th century, but incorporates the panelled pinnacles of the original gable, and above the window-label is carved S 1598 B (for Stephen Boord). In the wall between the two halves is a chimney-stack that has three conjoined diagonal square shafts above the roof, with later shafts flanking them, and another stack above the east end of the north half with similar shafts also appears to be ancient. East of the drawing-room is the modern entrance hall and north porch.

The drawing-room has an ornate ribbed ceiling consisting of a series of pointed quatrefoils overlapping at the points to form small squares: the centres of the quatrefoils have fluted conical pendants, and there are smaller similar pendants at two corners of each small square, the other two corners of the square having a low-relief spray design. The centres of the eight-sided panels between the quatrefoils contain various designs; most of the ornament is cast from the same moulds

¹² For Henry and Anne Gatland.

as those in other Sussex houses of the same period, but much of the ceiling is said to be of wood. The design is carried into the soffits of the bay and other window recesses. All the window reveals have in addition a deep frieze representing a draped pavilion or canopy with festoons of fruit, &c., probably a late-17th-century addition. The south fire-place is of late-18th-century date set in a large recess with a segmental arch. The south-western room has a ceiling with flat ribs enriched with a running design of grapes and other fruit; two diagonal square panels bear a badge of a falcon on a tower, and two others have a man's head in profile wearing a fool's crown. There is also a frieze with a running design of grapes and pomegranates. The walls are lined with late-16th-century oak panelling up to the plaster frieze, divided by fluted pilasters with moulded caps; at the top is a fluted frieze and moulded cornice. The chimney-piece has an inlaid oak overmantel of three bays divided by tapering fluted pilasters; each bay has a raised moulded and gadrooned frame enclosing a raised centre. Above is an entablature with carved brackets and jewelled centres to the frieze.

A loose board above the cornice, with the date 1569, was taken from a former barn on the estate. The stone fire-place is of an earlier 16th-century Renaissance design rather than Elizabethan, the lintel being carved in low relief with a running design in thin riband and foliage, with two pairs of birds: the stone mantel-shelf is also carved with roses and foliage. The ancient opening has been fitted with a stone arch dated 1895.

The south wall of the drawing-room is a thick one and had a doorway at the east end to the stair, now blocked to form a recess: next north of the east entrance to the drawing-room two other recesses towards the modern entrance-hall suggest former doorways. The west porch opens into a small lobby next the middle chimney-stack, with doorways to the two chambers.

The stair-hall, forming the south-eastern quarter of the plan, has late-16th-century wall lining. The stair, of which the lower flight has been restored, rises about a framed rectangular centre to the second floor, the upper flight having channelled and moulded angle-posts, on the south face of the rectangular central framing, with turned and moulded heads.

On the first-floor landing the thick wall to the rooms over the drawing-room has two ancient stone doorways in it, close together. The eastern has moulded jambs and a round head and contains a moulded oak frame and a heavy oak door of three nail-studded battens on sloping back-rails. The western doorway has similarly moulded jambs and four-centred arch in a square head with a similar heavy door. The eastern doorway leads to a lobby and dressing-room partitioned off from the great chamber above the drawing-room. The dressing-room is lined with mid-17th-century panelling and the bedroom with late-Elizabethan panelling, divided by fluted pilasters that have panelled pedestals with inlay ornament and super-pilasters with inlaid flower designs. The fire-place has modern side-pilasters and is lined with Dutch tiles. The overmantel is of three bays: the middle has a gadrooned frame like that on the ground floor, but the raised centre bears the inlaid date 1601; the side-bays have round-headed panels and are inlaid with conventional vase and flower designs in coloured woods. Around the room is a frieze of panels carved with rosette centres and fluting. Against the north wall, one in the bedroom and the other in the

dressing-room, dividing the length into three bays, are two contemporary moulded oak posts, 12 in. wide and 6 in. deep, brought out at the top with shaped corbels; they probably have some connexion with former roof-trusses. The square south-west bedroom is lined with plainer Elizabethan panelling with frieze panels. Above is a plastered frieze with masks, supported by mermaids. The fire-place has moulded stone jambs and a straight-sided Tudor arch in a square head, and a moulded stone shelf. The stone overmantel has a heart-shaped panel inscribed 1569, and floral decoration between columns. The room contains an Elizabethan four-poster bed. The attic bedrooms reveal nothing of the roof construction. The south-west room has some 17th-century panelling and in its fire-place recess is some re-used linenfold panelling, and there is some similar panelling in the modern north porch.

Near Borde Hill are two houses dating from about 1600. Naldred's Farm is L-shaped. The main block, facing east, has some of the original timber-framing in both side walls and in the north gable-end: the rest has tile-hanging to the upper story. The house has been lengthened to the south in modern times. The central chimney-stack, of the usual rebated type, has wide fire-places inside, and the rooms have chamfered ceiling-beams. Sugworth Farm has been mainly refronted in brick, but the semi-gabled north end retains the original square framing with brick infilling. The roof is covered partly with Horsham slabs and partly with tiles, and has a central chimney-stack of cross plan.

The village of Staplefield lies about 3 miles north-west of Cuckfield Church and has a large triangular green west of the church, the junction of five roads, with modern buildings about it and a War memorial of granite at the eastern angle. Staplefield Place, west of the green, is a large modern building of timber-framing with a Horsham slab roof.

Tyes Place,^{12a} east of the green, is an L-shaped house, of which the east wing incorporates a medieval hall. A floor was inserted in the 16th century, perhaps by William Butler, whose daughter Margaret in 1588 married Lawrence Washington, a direct ancestor of George Washington. Externally the house has been refaced with brick and tile-hanging, and the whole was enlarged some forty years ago; but some of the rooms retain their open-timbered ceilings and have wide fire-places, that in the dining-room having a Tudor arch to the opening, surmounted by a carved arabesque frieze.

Little Ashfold Farm, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south of the church, is a mid-15th-century building, facing west. It retains one bay, about 12 ft. of the original great hall, with a very fine arched roof-truss, and the north solar wing with curved braces in its side walls. A moulded wall-beam across the north end of the hall-place is partly buried in the first floor, inserted c. 1600, when the central chimney-stack was built in south of the great middle truss. The south part of the hall and the buttery wing have been replaced by modern brick walls. The roof, steep-pitched for thatch, is now tiled. The heavy tie-beam is chamfered and the soffit is curved in the middle to complete the arch formed by the two curved braces below it. The upper half of the truss and other roof construction is hidden by the first-floor ceilings.

A by-road to the south of Ashfold Farm has two cottages of c. 1600. One, facing west, has old timber-framing in the upper story of the front and a north end chimney-stack, probably once the central chimney-stack

^{12a} *Suss. N. & Q.* vii, 90; *Suss. Co. Mag.* iv 49-57.

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of a larger building. The other, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south-east of the first, has brick walls to the lower story and weatherboarding covering the timber-framing of the upper story. It has a central chimney-stack of early-17th-century bricks. Inside, both have wide fire-places and open-timbered ceilings.

Rocks Farm, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north-east of Staplefield Church, is a stone-built house of about 1650 with mullioned windows and roof covered with Horsham slabs, above which is a rebated chimney-stack of thin bricks. In the same neighbourhood 'Dillion's' and 'Old House' appear to be of early-17th-century date, and a barn east of 'Dillion's' is of three bays with fine roof-trusses of c. 1600.

The manor of *CUCKFIELD*¹³ is not *MANORS* mentioned in Domesday Book, but the church is recorded as being in the possession of William de Warenne about 1090.¹⁴ Certainly from 1240 the manor was held in demesne by the Earls Warenne, and it descended with the Barony¹⁵ down to the 16th century. By the partition of 1415 the whole manor was assigned to Edmund Lenthall,¹⁶ but after his death was divided among the remaining heirs, and in the late 16th century is found in three portions, a moiety in the hands of Lord Bergavenny,¹⁷ a quarter in the possession of the Earl of Derby, and the remaining quarter in that of Philip, Earl of Arundel.

In 1575 Henry, Earl of Derby, conveyed his quarter to Henry Bowyer,¹⁸ who built Cuckfield Place as his residence and died in 1589.¹⁹ His son Sir Henry Bowyer held the estate until his death in 1606, when it passed to his nephew Sir Thomas Hendley, the son of his sister Anne.²⁰ Sir Thomas was succeeded in 1656 by his son Walter,²¹ who was made a baronet in 1661 and died in 1675, leaving an only daughter Mary, who married first William More and secondly William Clarke.²² The latter mortgaged the house and estate in 1687,²³ and again in 1693, to Charles Sergison, who eventually purchased it.²⁴ Charles Sergison, Commissioner of the Navy and Clerk of Accounts,²⁵ lived at Cuckfield Place until his death in 1732, when his estates passed to Thomas Warden, son of his niece Prudence Sergison and her husband Thomas Warden.²⁶ Thomas the younger took the surname of Sergison on inheriting the property, and shortly afterwards acquired the second quarter of Cuckfield manor, as will presently appear.



SERGISON. *Argent a chevron between three dolphins sable with a roundel between two fleurs de lis argent on the chevron.*

The quarter of Cuckfield manor which was owned in the 16th century by Philip, Earl of Arundel, was sold by him in 1585 to Walter Covert of Slaugham.²⁷ From Sir Walter the property passed in 1632 to his niece Anne and her husband Sir Walter Covert of Maidstone,²⁸ and in turn to their two sons Thomas (d. 1643) and John,²⁹ though it was held in 1665 by Diana Baynham, daughter of Thomas.³⁰ From Sir John Covert (d. 1680) it passed to his daughter Anne, the wife of Sir James Marton, and to their son James,³¹ whose wife Mercy survived him and married secondly Charles Goodwin.³² Mercy Goodwin apparently sold her quarter of Cuckfield Manor in 1735 to Thomas Sergison³³ (formerly Warden), who had already inherited the first quarter.

The moiety of Cuckfield thus acquired passed from Thomas Sergison to his brother Michael in 1766,³⁴ who evidently owned it until his death in 1784, since he held courts there in 1770 and 1781,³⁵ though his daughter's husband Francis Jefferson (who later assumed the surname of Sergison) appears as the owner in 1778.³⁶ Francis and Anne inherited in 1784, and Anne continued to hold the moiety as a widow until her death in 1806,³⁷ after which her three children had the property in turn, Warden Jefferson Sergison dying in 1811 and his brother Francis in 1812.³⁸ Their sister Anne, wife of the Rev. W. S. Pritchard, in turn took the name Sergison, and her son Warden George Sergison inherited the estate in 1848.³⁹ In 1865 he acquired the remaining half of Cuckfield manor from William, 4th Earl of Abergavenny,⁴⁰ in whose family it had descended until then.⁴¹

The whole manor, thus reunited, descended from Warden George Sergison to his son Major Warden Sergison in 1867 or 1868, and to Capt. Charles Warden Sergison, son of the latter, in 1888.⁴² At his death in 1911 his property devolved upon his eldest daughter, Prudence, who married Col. (now Major-Gen. Sir Bertram) Sergison-Brooke and died without male heirs. The younger daughter, Cynthia, married Sir Basil Stanlake Brooke, bart., and her son John Warden Brooke is heir to the property, subject to the life interest of Sir B. N. Sergison-Brooke.

In 1255 John de Warenne obtained the grant of a weekly market on Tuesdays at his manor of Cuckfield, and a yearly fair, to be held on the vigil, feast, and morrow of the Nativity of St. Mary⁴³ (8 Sept.). In 1312, however, the day of the market was altered to Monday, and a fair was granted for the vigil, feast, and morrow of the Holy Trinity;⁴⁴ both fairs were held in 1465.⁴⁵

In 1670 licence was given to Sir Walter Hendley and

¹³ See *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xl, 173-210, lix, 79-94, 203.

¹⁴ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), i, 15.

¹⁵ Pipe R. 25 Hen. III; *Feud. Aids*, v, 129. Cf. *Subs.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. x), 177, 290 et seq.

¹⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 185.

¹⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxxiii, 58.

¹⁸ *Recov. R.* Hil. 17 Eliz. ro. 930; Feet of F. Suss. Mich. 17-18 Eliz. The $\frac{1}{2}$ part of the manor pertaining to the Wingfields was claimed by the Bellinghams as late as 1605, but this claim was disproved: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 271-2, xxxiii, 196; xxxiv, 145-6. For family connexion of Bellinghams and Bowyers, &c., see Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 26, 233, 318-21; (Horsham), 365; (*Lewes*), 10.

¹⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2) ccxxv, 60; but cf. *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 158, xxxiii, 110; W. V. Cooper, *Hist. of Cuckfield*.

²⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2) ccxcii, 173.

²¹ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 233;

Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 15-16 Chas. II.

²² G.E.C. *Baronetage*; iii, 183; Feet of F. Suss. Trin. 1 Jas. II; Comber, op. cit. 235. ²³ Deeds, Coll. C, Lewes, 651.

²⁴ Ibid. 659, 660.

²⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 62-84. His fine collection of ship models was till recently at Cuckfield Park: *Country Life*, xlv, 320-4.

²⁶ Cooper, op. cit., 85-8; Comber, op. cit. 313.

²⁷ Feet of F. Suss. East. 27 Eliz.; Comber, op. cit. 183.

²⁸ Ibid. 185; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccclxvii, 187; ibid. ccclxv, 55.

²⁹ Feet of F. Suss. Mich. 15 Chas. I; ibid. Div. Co. East. 1649.

³⁰ Ibid. Hil. 16-17 Chas. II; Comber, op. cit. 185.

³¹ *Recov. R.* Mich. 1 Geo. I, ro. 61.

³² Cooper, op. cit. 74.

³³ Ibid. 75.

³⁴ Ibid. 88.

³⁵ Deeds, Coll. B, Lewes, 346; Coll. L, 33.

³⁶ *Recov. R.* East. 18 Geo. III, ro. 267.

³⁷ Deeds, Coll. L, Lewes, 37; Cooper, op. cit. 88.

³⁸ The widow of Francis tried to secure the property for her alleged child, which she was proved to have bought in Dublin for 7s. 6d.: ibid. 91.

³⁹ Ibid. 88-91.

⁴⁰ Ibid. 85.

⁴¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxcix, 157; Deeds, Coll. L, Lewes, 30, 33, 37, 38; Coll. B, 127, 346; Coll. E, 262-3, 269.

⁴² Cooper, op. cit. 92.

⁴³ *Cal. Chart.* i, 449.

⁴⁴ Ibid. iii, 194.

⁴⁵ Rental of the Barony in the Norfolk muniments.

five others to hold a weekly market at Cuckfield, for the benefit of the inhabitants.⁴⁶ In 1792 there was a Friday market, and fairs on Whit Thursday, 25 May, 16 September, and 29 November; but all these had lapsed by 1888.⁴⁷ A weekly stock-market on Tuesdays was apparently transferred to Haywards Heath in 1868.⁴⁸

The custom of Borough English obtained in the main manor of Cuckfield and in the small manor attached to the vicarage.⁴⁹

CUCKFIELD PARK⁵⁰ was early a preserve of the Earls Warenne and from 1280 onwards complaints of trespass in it were frequent.⁵¹ It descended with the Barony of Lewes and was divided in the same way, one half passing to Lord Bergavenny.⁵² In 1439 it contained 229 acres,⁵³ and the manors of Slaugham and Pangdean were anciently held by the service of fencing a certain portion of the Park.⁵⁴ It was disparted in the 16th century,⁵⁵ and the Bergavenny moiety was leased for £10 in 1567 to Thomas Michell and his son John for their lives, and in 1615 to Sir Walter Covert and others, during the lives of three of the children of Sir Walter's niece Jane and her husband Ninian Burrell.⁵⁶ The other half of the park appears to have gone with the quarter of Cuckfield manor originally held by the Earls of Derby, for in 1613 it was in the possession of S'r Thomas Hendley,⁵⁷ and he still had 'liberty of park' in 1646.⁵⁸ Free warren is mentioned as late as 1685.⁵⁹

BENTLEY PARK⁶⁰ [Benetlegh, Bentele (xiv cent.)], the name of which remains in Great Bentley Farm and Little Bentley Wood, in the north-east of Cuckfield parish, is first mentioned in 1312,⁶¹ when it belonged to Earl Warenne. It descended with Cuckfield Park,⁶² the Bergavenny moiety being leased in 1565 to Henry Bowyer and his sons,⁶³ and the other moiety passing with the quarter manor to Sir Thomas Hendley⁶⁴ and descending to William Clarke, who was holding it in 1687.⁶⁵ Ten years later it was in the hands of Charles Sergison,⁶⁶ and is mentioned among the possessions of his descendants as late as 1778.⁶⁷ In 1439 the park had an extent of 226 acres.⁶⁸

The so-called manor of **CUCKFIELD CLAUDITOR** seems to have consisted merely of the proceeds of the ancient office of 'Park Clauditor', an official who collected the rents due for the inclosing of Cuckfield Park.⁶⁹ It descended with the manor of Cuckfield until the death of Edmund Lenthall, when, under the guise of rents in Cuckfield, it was held in dower by his

widow Margaret Tresham.⁷⁰ In the subsequent division of the Lenthall manors $\frac{1}{8}$ appears in the hands of Thomas, Earl of Derby, who died in 1521,⁷¹ and the Wingfield $\frac{1}{8}$ appears to have been conveyed under the name of Cuckfield (q.v.) to Joan Everard in 1539, appearing as Cuckfield Clauditor in the possession of the Bellinghams in 1602 and 1605.⁷² In 1648, Cicely, cousin and heir of Sir Edward Bellingham, with her second husband Henry Rolt and her son Walter West, conveyed her $\frac{1}{8}$ to Sir Thomas Hendley.⁷³

The manor of **HALDLEIGH**, [Haldelegh, Aldelegh (xv cent.)] now Halleighs, was a member of the manor of Cuckfield⁷⁴ and appears with that manor among the possessions of Beatrice, Countess of Arundel, in 1439.⁷⁵ It descended with Cuckfield Clauditor (q.v.) at least until 1648,⁷⁶ and is mentioned as 'Hauligh or Haully' in 1687,⁷⁷ and as 'Hally or Hallies' in 1697. It was then the property of the Sergisons, and lay between Ockenden and Mill Hall.⁷⁸

BOLNORE [Bulnore (xvi and xvii cent.)]⁷⁹ manor is first mentioned in 1559, when it was in the possession of George Davie.⁸⁰ He was still living in 1581,⁸¹ but Bolnore evidently passed soon after to the Ward family, by the marriage of Mary Davie with Richard Ward.⁸² The property seems to have been divided, the main part with the manorial rights passing to the Wards, but a portion in the hands of a certain Joan being acquired by her husband Thomas Anstye or Holcombe. Thomas died in 1597 and Joan married secondly William Cooke, who was dead before 1613, when Joan surrendered the property to her son Walter Anstye. At his death in 1640 it passed to his son Thomas, whose widow Elizabeth Holcombe or Anstye left it in 1688 to her son Thomas.⁸³ The 'manor or capital messuage', however, was in the hands of George Ward, son of Mary Davie, early in the 17th century,⁸⁴ and he died seised of it in 1625, when it passed to his son John;⁸⁵ it was said at this time to be held of the manor of Trubweek.⁸⁶ John died in 1660 and his sons John and George were both dead by 1670, when Bolnore passed to George's son John.⁸⁷ At his death in 1718 it was inherited by his daughter Elizabeth, wife of William Paulet or Powlatt, who died in 1753 leaving it to Jasper Ward.⁸⁸ The latter conveyed the manor as Bolnore and Wiggerry in 1783 to James Cooke,⁸⁹ who



WARD. Azure a cross paty or.

⁴⁶ Cal. S. P. Dom. 1670, p. 4.
⁴⁷ Roy. Com. on Market Rights, 208.
⁴⁸ Kelly, *Suss. Directory* (1934).
⁴⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 179.
⁵⁰ The ancient park is said to have lain east of the church, between it and Broad Street: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 90.
⁵¹ Cal. Pat. 1272-81, p. 414; *ibid.* 1292-1301, pp. 317, 472, 545, &c.
⁵² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 150.
⁵³ *Ibid.* 191.
⁵⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. 13 Edw. III, 1st nos. 37.
⁵⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 32.
⁵⁶ *Ibid.* 18; Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 47-8, 184.
⁵⁷ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* vii, 670b.
⁵⁸ Feet of F. *Suss. Trin.* 22 Chas. I.
⁵⁹ *Ibid.* Trin. 1 Jas. II.
⁶⁰ The demesne lands of Benetlee are mentioned in 1304: Esch. Accts. 33 Edw. I.
⁶¹ Cal. Pat. 1307-13, p. 531.

⁶² *Ibid.* Edw. VI, iii, 69, iv, 365, 427; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 150.
⁶³ *Ibid.* 17-18.
⁶⁴ *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* vii, 670b.
⁶⁵ Deeds, Coll. C, Lewes, 651.
⁶⁶ Cooper, op. cit. 83.
⁶⁷ Deeds, Coll. C, Lewes, 803.
⁶⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 191.
⁶⁹ *Ibid.* 32; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 90-1.
⁷⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. 1 Ric. III, no. 43.
 And see above, p. 4.
⁷¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 330.
⁷² *Ibid.* 484; xxxiii, 196; xxxiv, 145-6.
⁷³ *Ibid.* xix, 118; Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Horsham)*, 365.
⁷⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lvi, 87-90. John de Haldelegh was holding land in Cuckfield in 1327: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 177.
⁷⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. 18 Hen. VI, ro. 28.
⁷⁶ Cf. also *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 119; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxcii, 173; Pat. R. 11 Jas. I, pt. xviii. Between 1602 and 1637 $\frac{1}{8}$ of an alleged manor of Court

Bushes (perhaps in Hurstpierpoint: *PI-N. Suss.* ii, 276) is mentioned with Haldeleigh: see above, p. 6; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 404 and 109; *ibid.* xxxiii, 196. No other references to this $\frac{1}{8}$ or the $\frac{1}{8}$ of this shadowy manor have been found.
⁷⁷ Deeds, Coll. C, Lewes, 651.
⁷⁸ Cooper, op. cit. 83-4.
⁷⁹ A William de Bolnore is recorded in 1327 and 1332: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 180, 294.
⁸⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xli, 207.
⁸¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 95.
⁸² Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Horsham)*, 356.
⁸³ Ct. Rolls, Barony of Lewes. Cf. *Bk. of J. Rowe, passim*, for tenements held by these families.
⁸⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 23; Comber, op. cit. 357.
⁸⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 1052.
⁸⁶ *Ibid.*
⁸⁷ Comber, op. cit. 356-60.
⁸⁸ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 51.
⁸⁹ Feet of F. *Suss. Mich.* 24 Geo. III.

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was holding it in 1790⁹⁰ and died in 1813, leaving a daughter Elizabeth Ward Cooke, wife of Henry Nailand.⁹¹ However, it apparently reverted to the Ward family shortly afterwards, for Mary Elizabeth Ward was the owner in 1823,⁹² and James Cooke Ward in 1825.⁹³ One year later it was in the possession of Admiral Sir John Wells,⁹⁴ and in 1870 was owned by Miss Dealtry,⁹⁵ who left it to her relative, Mr. Henry Woodcock,⁹⁶ and the estate was subsequently bought by the late Sir Alexander Drake Kleinwort, bart. It is now owned and occupied by his youngest son, Cyril H. Kleinwort, esq.

The manor of *HOLMSTEAD* [Mortimers *alias* Olmested (xvi cent.); Hampsted *alias* Holmsted (xvii cent.)] was held in 1597 of the manor of Plumpton⁹⁷ (q.v.). Early tenants may have been John ate Holme in 1327 and William Holmsted in 1379.⁹⁸ It was held by John Chaloner in 1496 and 1532.⁹⁹ From his son William, who died in 1557, it passed to his son Ninian,^{99a} who was holding the manor in 1582¹ and 1584.² In 1588 it was conveyed by Giles Garton and Margaret his wife to Ninian Burrell,³ who was Ninian Chaloner's cousin, and he died seised of it in 1614.⁴ His son Walter was succeeded in 1671 by his son Ninian, who only survived him for three years. Ninian's son Walter died in 1683,⁵ leaving a rent of £60 from the manor, if not the manor itself, to his sister Jane, wife of Peter Short.⁶ Walter's heir was his brother Ninian, but in 1700—the manor was conveyed to Thomas Short⁷ by Richard Hulse and Elizabeth and Sir George Choute, perhaps trustees, and Peter Short, son of Jane and Peter, was holding it in 1734.⁸ Subsequently it was sold to Peter Burrell, grandson of Jane Short's uncle Peter.⁹ In 1778 Elizabeth widow of this Peter Burrell was holding Holmstead,¹⁰ and at her death it passed to her son Peter, 1st Lord Gwydir.¹¹ Alberic son of Peter Robert, 2nd Lord Gwydir, sold the manor in 1833 to Andrew Chittenden, from whom it was acquired by Captain Dearden, who was the owner in 1900.¹² Holmsted Manor is now the residence of James Galloway, esq.¹³

The manor of *LEGH* [Lee (xvi cent.); Leigh (xvii cent.)] was said in the 16th century to be held of the barony of Lewes by knight service.¹⁴ A family of Legh

is found in Cuckfield during the 13th and 14th centuries, William de Legh being mentioned in 1218,¹⁵ and others of the name down to John Leghe in 1393.¹⁶ In 1400 the manor is said to have been held by John Bassett,¹⁷ but after that nothing further is heard of it until 1509, when Alfred Barwyke settled it on himself and his wife Agnes with remainder to John Caryll and his heirs.¹⁸ In 1540 Henry Hussey of Slinfold settled it on himself and his wife Eleanor, niece of Agnes Barwyke,¹⁹ with remainder to his son John,²⁰ who succeeded to it in the following year.²¹ John Hussey was followed in 1572 by his son John, who was holding Legh in 1587 and died in 1600,²² when it passed to his son Nathaniel.²³ In 1627 Mary widow of John Hussey and Mary widow of Nathaniel conveyed the manor to John Stapley, and in 1634 George Hussey son of Nathaniel also released his right in it.²⁴ John Stapley died seised of Legh in 1639, leaving directions that the manor should be sold.²⁵ John Burrell of Cuckfield was holding courts there from 1651 to 1690²⁶ and settled it on his daughter Mary, who married William Boord in 1687,²⁷ and in 1707 they sold it to Charles Sergison.²⁸ Legh then descended with the other Sergison manors in Cuckfield.²⁹

PAINS [(Paynes (xvi to xviii cent.))] in the middle of the 16th century was in the possession of John Hussey, who owned Legh,³⁰ of which it was part. The estate was evidently sold to John Porter, who died in 1599 leaving a son Sackville,³¹ from whom it seems to have been acquired by Henry Ward.³² The latter died in 1634 and was succeeded in turn at Pains by his sons Henry (who died in 1664) and John, whose daughter Jane married Henry Plumer, succeeded her father in 1673, and died in 1677.³³ Henry Plumer was succeeded by John, probably his son, who was living in 1690, and whose sister Jane married Robert Norden.³⁴ The latter was holding Pains in 1705³⁵ and had a son James, who succeeded to his manor of Marshalls (q.v.), but its subsequent history is obscure.

The manor of *MARSHALLS* [Marshallys (xvi cent.)] was held by Ninian Ward about 1583.³⁶ From Ninian's son John, Marshalls passed about 1592 to his son Henry Ward of Pains,³⁷ and thereafter descended with the manor of Pains (q.v.) until it came into the



HUSSEY. Barry ermine and gules.



BURRELL. Vert three scutcheons argent each having a border engrailed or.

⁹⁰ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 51.

⁹¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 22.

⁹² *Recov. R. Mich.* 4 Geo. IV, ro. 167.

⁹³ *Ibid.* East. 6 Geo. IV, ro. 199.

⁹⁴ Gamekeepers' Deputations (Lewes).

He still held it in 1835: Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 253.

⁹⁵ Lower, *Sussex*, i, 127.

⁹⁶ Cooper, op. cit. 63.

⁹⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiv, 236 (1597);

Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccl, 36 (1614).

⁹⁸ Cooper, op. cit., 16, 18.

⁹⁹ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 69.

^{99a} *Ibid.* *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 221.

² Chan. Proc. Eliz. Cc, 23, no. 36;

Recov. R. Mich. 26 Eliz. ro. 13; Comber,

op. cit. 70.

³ *Ibid.* 47; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 221.

⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccl, 36; cf.

Suss. Arch. Coll. xliii, 11.

⁵ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 49;

Recov. R. Trin. 35 Chas. II, ro. 165.

⁶ Will, in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xliii, 21-2;

Suss. Rec. Soc. xix, 221.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Ibid.*; Add. MS. 5683, fol. 168.

⁹ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 258; Cooper,

op. cit. 111.

¹⁰ *Recov. R. Trin.* 18 Geo. III, ro. 233.

The second Peter died in 1756 and the third in 1775.

¹¹ Cooper, op. cit. 111; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vi, 220-1.

¹² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xliii, 38.

¹³ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

¹⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiv, 21. Add. MS.

5683, fol. 206, says it was held of the

manor of Otehall by rent of 4d.

¹⁵ Cooper, op. cit. 12; *Lewes Chart.*

(*Suss. Rec. Soc.*) ii, 33, 62, 63; *Suss. Rec.*

Soc. x, 46, 177, 295.

¹⁶ Add. Chart. 28288.

¹⁷ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 206.

¹⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 269.

¹⁹ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Horsham)*, 26.

²⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 269.

²¹ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Horsham)*, 185.

²² *Ibid.* 187; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 269.

²³ *Ibid.* xxxiv, 21; Add. MS. 39381,

fol. 89; Comber, op. cit. 188. It is at this

time referred to as 'Lee *alias* Paynes'.

²⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 269; Comber, op.

cit. 188.

²⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 986.

²⁶ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 207.

²⁷ *Ibid.*; Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*,

21, 48.

²⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 269.

²⁹ *Ibid.* xx, 439; Add. MS. 5683, fol.

207; Deeds, Coll. C, Lewes, 803.

³⁰ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Horsham)*, 186.

³¹ Ct. Rolls, Barony of Lewes.

³² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 21.

³³ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 309-

10. Both Comber and Cooper (*Cuckfield*,

119-20) refer to John Hussey and his son

Nathaniel as both 'of Payne's Place'.

³⁴ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 13.

³⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* i, 14.

³⁶ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 308.

³⁷ *Ibid.* 309; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 292.

hands of James son of Robert Norden.³⁸ His grandson James Norden sold Marshalls some time after 1754 to John Tomlinson, from whom it was bought by Henry Edwards.³⁹ In 1770 it was conveyed by Henry Edwards and various members of a family named Baker to Charles Langford,⁴⁰ who sold it before 1784 to Francis Warden,⁴¹ from whom it descended to the Sergisons,⁴² owners of the main manor of Cuckfield.

The manor of *SLOUGH* [Slowes (xvi cent.); Slowe, Slowe Greene (xvii–xviii cent.)] was held by John Hever, who in 1543 settled it on himself and his wife Joan.⁴³ John died in 1558 and his son Thomas,⁴⁴ with his son Richard, in 1582 conveyed Slough to Edward Jenner.⁴⁵ Three years later Edward and Mary Jenner sold the manor to Walter Covert,⁴⁶ presumably the Sir Walter who was knighted in 1591. It seems, however, to have been leased to, or at least occupied by, his cousin George Covert, who is described as 'of Slowe' and died in 1611.⁴⁷ It passed, however, to the main line of the Coverts before 1639 and descended with their manor of Slaugham until 1672, when it was sold with that manor to Sir William Morton.⁴⁸

It is, however, not heard of again until 1764, when it reappears in the possession of Thomas Lintott.⁴⁹ He sold it in 1781 to Francis Warden,⁵⁰ in whose family it descended.⁵¹

The reputed manor of *SUGWORTH*⁵² [Southworth *alias* Sugworth (xvii cent.)] was held of the main manor of Cuckfield.⁵³ Members of a family of Suggeworth are mentioned in this district between 1235 and 1365,⁵⁴ but nothing definite is known of the estate until 1528, when William Bryan of East Grinstead sold 'Sugworths and lands and tenements at Sugworth' to another William Bryan, whose sons Thomas and John sold them in 1560 to George Boord.⁵⁵

George acquired another 20 acres of it from Francis Carew in 1574,⁵⁶ and died in 1581 leaving Sugworth to his widow Thomasine for life,⁵⁷ after which it was held by his son Sir Stephen Boord,⁵⁸ except for a portion which went to the second son Edward.⁵⁹ Sir Stephen was succeeded in 1630 by his son John,⁶⁰ who died about 1648.⁶¹ His son and grandson William sold Sugworth in 1693 to Timothy Burrell,⁶² who was holding it at his death in 1717 and left it with his other property in trust to his brother



Boord. *Party fessewise gules and azure a scutcheon in an orle of martlets argent.*

Peter for his granddaughter Elizabeth.⁶³ Its subsequent history is lost.

TRUBWEEK [Trobewyk (xiii cent.); Trubwyke, Trubwicke (xvi–xvii cent.)] was said in 1612 and 1774 to be held of the manor of Plumpton Boscage.⁶⁴ Its courts were held with Haywards Manor.⁶⁵ The earliest recorded tenant is John de Trobewyk, who was holding a messuage and land in 'Trobewyk and Haywothe' in 1276.⁶⁶ Richard de Trubwyk grandson of Maud de Trubwyk is mentioned in 1328.⁶⁷ Trubweek first appears as a manor in 1488, in the possession of William Covert, who held courts there until 1494.⁶⁸ He was then succeeded by his son John, from whom the property passed in 1503 to his cousin Richard Covert,⁶⁹ who held a court there in 1508.⁷⁰ In 1531 the manor was held by Richard Homewood⁷¹ but by 1554 was held in thirds by Richard Covert, John Roberts, and Michael Homewood.⁷² John Roberts eventually acquired the Covert portion and was holding two-thirds in 1563–7,⁷³ the other third being held by Henry Homewood, who was still in possession of it in 1576.⁷⁴ The two-thirds of Trubweek passed about 1572 to John and Mary Hardham,⁷⁵ who were still holding that portion in 1594.⁷⁶ It remained in that family, Nicholas Hardham holding his first court in 1638 and continuing until 1662,⁷⁷ after which his widow Elizabeth, with others, including her brother John Burt, conveyed the property to John Warden,⁷⁸ whose father had previously acquired the other third. Henry Homewood's third part was divided about 1579 between Thomas Jenner and John Homewood,⁷⁹ and in 1592 Lawrence Homewood conveyed his sixth to Thomas Jenner,⁸⁰ who then held the third part of the manor until 1612, when he sold it to John Warden.⁸¹ The latter died in 1649–50 and his widow then held it until her death,⁸² when their son John succeeded to it and in 1662 purchased the rest of the manor. Trubweek thereafter descended with the other property of that family in Cuckfield, going to the Wardens, afterwards Sergisons,⁸³ holders of the main manor.

The manor of *HAYWARDS* [Hayworthe (xiv–xvi cent.); Heward (xvii cent.)] was said in 1784 to be held of the Crown as of the manor of East Greenwich by rent of 4d. a year.⁸⁴ It gave its name to a family living there in the 14th century, Philip de Heyworthe being mentioned in 1308⁸⁵ and John de Hayworthe in 1358.⁸⁶ It first appears as a manor in 1542, when as 'Hayworth' it was conveyed by Nicholas Mascall and Agatha his wife and John his brother or son to John Robardes.⁸⁷ By 1594 the manor had come into the

³⁸ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 13.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 292.

⁴¹ Deeds, Coll. C, Lewes, 716.

⁴² Ibid. 804; Add. MS. 5684, fol. 13.

⁴³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 402.

⁴⁴ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 236; *Recov. R. Mich.* 15 Eliz. ro. 1453.

⁴⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 402.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Comber, *op. cit.* 182–3.

⁴⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 201; xx, 400, 402, 403.

⁴⁹ Ibid. xx, 403.

⁵⁰ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 107.

⁵¹ Deeds, Coll. C, Lewes, 716, 804.

⁵² Transferred to Haywards Heath in 1911; Cooper, *op. cit.* 65.

⁵³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccclv, 75.

⁵⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, no. 300; *ibid.* x, 52; *Lewes Chart.* ii, 63; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 239; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 180 and 294; *Assize R.* of 1365 (Wood MSS.).

⁵⁵ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 128. His father Stephen Boord held 9 ac. of land called Sugworth, worth 20s. at his death in 1567: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 50. Cf. *ibid.* xiv, 149.

⁵⁶ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 128.

⁵⁷ Ibid.; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 149.

⁵⁸ Ibid. xx, 423, when it is first called a manor.

⁵⁹ Ibid. xxxiv, 239; here part of the manor of Plumpton. Possibly this is the portion acquired from Francis Carew.

⁶⁰ Ibid. xiv, 153.

⁶¹ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 21.

⁶² Add. MS. 5684, fol. 128.

⁶³ Cooper, *op. cit.* 108.

⁶⁴ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 139.

⁶⁵ Ibid.

⁶⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 856.

⁶⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxvi, 182.

⁶⁸ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 140.

⁶⁹ Comber, *op. cit.* 179–81.

⁷⁰ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 140.

⁷¹ *Recov. R. Hil.* 22 Hen. VIII, ro. 148.

⁷² Add. MS. 5684, fol. 140.

⁷³ Ibid.

⁷⁴ *Recov. R. Trin.* 18 Eliz. ro. 130.

⁷⁵ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 140.

⁷⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 209.

⁷⁷ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 140.

⁷⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 209; Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 55–6, 311.

⁷⁹ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 140.

⁸⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 447.

⁸¹ Ibid.

⁸² Comber, *op. cit.* 310; Add. MS. 5684, fol. 140.

⁸³ Ibid.; Deeds, Coll. C, 803, 716, 804.

⁸⁴ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 165.

⁸⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 239.

⁸⁶ Ibid. xxxiv, 260.

⁸⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 209; Comber, *op. cit.* 251–4.

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possession of John and Mary Hardham, the holders of two-thirds of the manor of Trubweek, who in that year settled it upon Thomas Jenner and James Hardham and the heirs of Thomas.⁸⁸ In 1662-3 Elizabeth widow of Nicholas Hardham, with others, conveyed two parts of the manor to John Warden.⁸⁹ The subsequent history of the manor is not clear, but it seems that from this time Hayward and Trubweek, which were adjacent,⁹⁰ descended together and formed part of the property of the Sergison family.⁹¹ The lords of Trubweek had rights of common on Haywards Heath.⁹²

A family of the name of Tye was settled in Cuckfield as early as the 13th century, when John atte Tye made grants of land there.⁹³ John de Tye was paying subsidy in the vill of Cuckfield in 1327.⁹⁴ A manor of *TYES*⁹⁵ was in existence at least from 1397 to 1403,⁹⁶ but nothing further is known of it until 1492, when it was in the possession of John Michell, who died in 1525.⁹⁷ His son John in 1546 left it to his son Edmund,⁹⁸ who was succeeded in 1558 by his son Thomas.⁹⁹ In 1585 Thomas Michell sold the manor to William Butler,^{99a} whose son Roger was holding it in 1619¹ but mortgaged it in 1627 to Henry Bellingham and finally conveyed it to him in 1632.² Henry Bellingham is said to have sold Tyes in 1638 to Richard Shelley,³ and it descended in that family to another Richard, who was holding it in 1695.⁴ His son Henry succeeded to it in 1716 and died in 1735,⁵ leaving a son Henry, who was the owner in 1786 and died in 1805.⁶ His son Henry Shelley died unmarried in 1811, leaving four sisters,⁷ but the subsequent descent of Tyes is not recorded.

A small manor attached to the *VICARAGE* belonged to the incumbent for the time being.⁸ Possibly a payment of 6*d.* due from the Prior of Lewes to the Duke of Norfolk 'for the manor of Cokfeld'⁹ in 1535 may refer to this. It is now extinct, all the holdings having been freed.

The parish church of the *HOLY CHURCH TRINITY* consists of a chancel, north and south chapels, and north vestry, nave of four bays, north and south aisles, north and south porches, and a west tower with a spire. The walls are of Sussex stone rubble and the roofs are covered with Horsham slabs.

Foundations of a probably 12th-century church have been traced below the floor. The length of its nave tallied with that of the three western bays of the present arcades, and there was a small chancel. Enlargement began about 1250 with the addition of the south aisle and arcade, perhaps some alteration of the chancel, and the erection of the West Tower, up to the bell chamber. A great increase in size took place about 1330-40: this included the lengthening of the nave

by one bay to the east, the addition of the north aisle of four bays, and the complete enlargement of the chancel, with north and south chapels of the same width as the nave aisles. Also the raising of a clearstory above the nave. Although the top story (bell chamber) of the tower has more the appearance of a late-13th-century addition, it is probable that the construction of the clearstory caused its heightening at the same period. Whether the slender spire is contemporary is uncertain. About 1460 the chancel and nave were given a new roof and ceiling, and the chapel and aisle walls were heightened and their lean-to roofs raised to form one continuous slope with the main roof. The clearstory windows were as a consequence covered in and rendered useless. New windows were inserted in the east walls of chancel and chapels and perhaps also enlarged in the side walls for additional light. Buttresses were added to the angles of the tower, perhaps because of the erection of the spire at the same time. The two porches retain some timbers of the same century. The north vestry or 'Sergison Chapel' was added in the 16th or 17th century. Heavy buttresses had to be provided about this time against the south aisle wall because of pressure from the roof. The church was restored in the middle of the 19th century and few of the windows retain ancient masonry externally. The tower has been reinforced by two additional west buttresses and provided with a south stair-vice.

The chancel (34 ft. by 21 ft.) has a modern east window of five lights and tracery of late-13th-century character. The former window, of the same width, had its sill some 4 ft. lower, and the ancient dressings of the 15th century remain in the wall below the modern sill.¹⁰ Above is a sex-foiled bulls-eye window of the 14th century. On the north and south sides are 14th-century arcades, of two bays, to the side-chapels: each has a hexagonal pillar with responds to match, with moulded capitals and bases (excepting the restored chamfered base of the north pillar) and two-centred arches of two chamfered orders. East of the arcades were doorways to the chapels from the sanctuary; both are blocked. The northern shows only its segmental-pointed rear-arch towards the chapel, the southern has a chamfered pointed arch towards the chancel: it is recessed towards the chapel and has a similar rear-arch. The chancel steps and altar-pace are much higher than the original levels and encroach on the doorways. The lofty chancel-arch is similar to those of the arcades. The east wall is gabled and retains the old kneelers and four or five dressings of the angles that existed before the roofs of the chapels were heightened.

In the south wall is a piscina of the 13th century. It has a trefoiled head to the inner order, carried on shafted jambs with moulded bases and capitals and an acutely-pointed outer order: the sill (only 8 in. above the raised sanctuary-floor) has the remains of a basin of twelve foils: its face has been cut back; there is a stone shelf behind the capitals.

was apparently the son of his sister Jane: Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 13, 249.

⁴ Deeds, Coll. I, 27.

⁵ Comber, op. cit. 250-1.

⁶ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 146; Comber, op. cit. 151.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 254; Lower, *Sussex*, i, 127; Cooper, *Cuckfield*, 36.

⁹ *Valor Eccl. (Rec. Com.)*, i, 331.

¹⁰ It had typical perpendicular tracery: see drawing of 1855 in Cooper, *Hist. of Cuckfield*, 62.



MICHELL. *Sable a chevron between three scallops argent.*

⁸⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 209.

⁸⁹ Ibid.

⁹⁰ A map of them hangs in the hall of Barbican House, Lewes.

⁹¹ Deeds, Coll. C, Lewes, 803, 804, 716.

⁹² Add. MS. 5684, fol. 140.

⁹³ Charters translated in *Suss. Notes and Queries*, li, 219-20; cf. Deeds, Coll. B, Lewes, 129.

⁹⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 177.

⁹⁵ Tye (xiv-xv cent.); Tys, Tiis (xvi and xvii cent.).

⁹⁶ Ct. Rolls among Deeds, Coll. B, 129.

⁹⁷ Add. MS. 39378, fol. 17; Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 265.

⁹⁸ Ibid.; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 710.

⁹⁹ Comber, op. cit. 268.

^{99a} Deeds, Coll. B, Lewes, 132; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 450.

¹ Deeds, Coll. B, 99; Newnham Deeds, ii, 4.

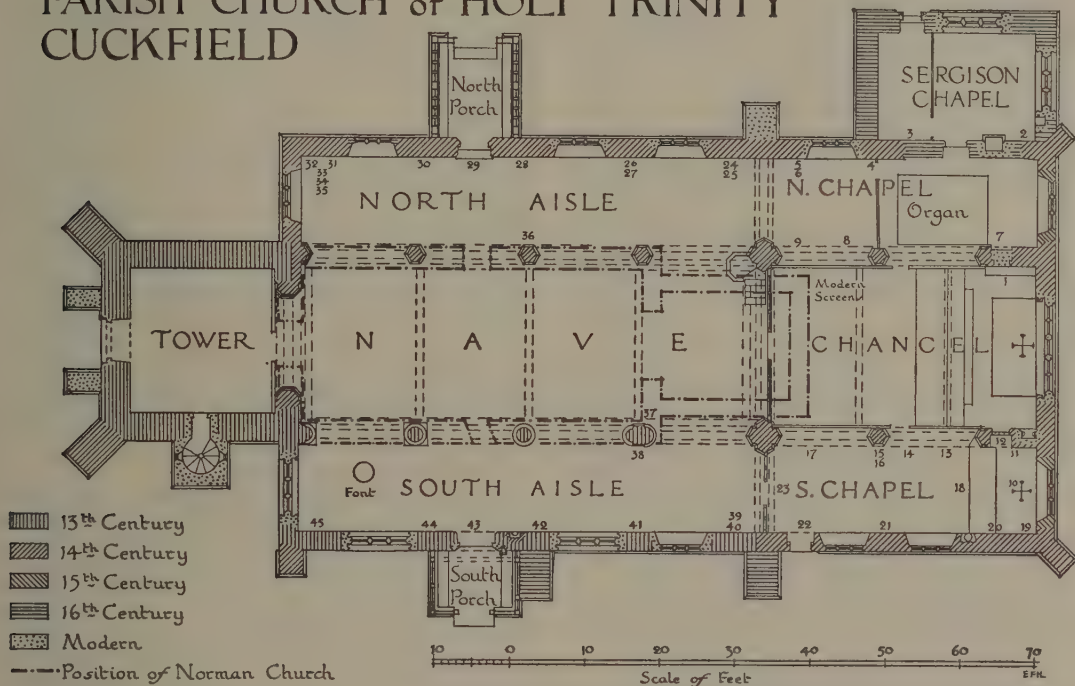
² Deeds, Coll. B, 107, 109; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 450.

³ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 146; Richard

The north chapel, now converted into an organ-chamber (11½ ft. wide), has an east window of three trefoiled lights and vertical tracery in a two-centred head with an external hood-mould and hollow-chamfered four-centred rear-arch. It is of the 14th century but considerably restored. In the north wall is a window of three trefoiled ogee-headed lights under a square main head: all the masonry is modern. East of it is a 16th-century doorway into the vestry with a depressed Tudor arch. The west archway—to the north aisle—is a low one of similar detail to the others. On the west face

details like those of the chancel-arcades. The three western bays of the south arcade are of about mid-13th-century date and have cylindrical pillars with plain capitals and moulded abaci and bases: the arches are pointed, of two orders with small chamfers and small vousoirs. The pier between this arcade and the bay east of them is composite, having the half-round east respond of the original arcade, a length of straight face where the east wall of the nave and south aisle originally met the wall, and the half round west respond of the easternmost bay. This is of greater diameter than the

PARISH CHURCH of HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD



above it can be seen the line of the slope of the original aisle-roof.

The north vestry (or 'Sergison Chapel') is of the 16th or 17th century and has walls of rubble with ashlar dressings, and a chamfered plinth: the east and west walls are gabled. It has a modern window in the east wall and another in the north, both of three lights: west of the latter is a doorway with 15th-century moulded jambs reset, a modern Tudor arch and old four-centred chamfered rear-arch. The modern panelled oak ceiling hides the construction of the gabled roof, which is covered with old Horsham slabs.

The south chapel (c. 11½ ft. wide) has a restored east window, like the other but with a chamfered two-centred rear-arch. In the south wall are two windows of three lights under square heads like that in the north wall and of modern stonework. West of the second is a doorway with old chamfered jambs and two-centred head and segmental-pointed rear-arch: it is dwarfed by the lifting of the pavement level. The west arch is like that of the north chapel. The chapel has a carved oak altar-table and reredos of c. 1910 and pavement of white and serpentine marble.

The nave (72 ft. by 21 ft.) has a 14th-century north arcade of four bays with hexagonal pillars and other

others and is most probably a respond of the original chancel-arch re-used by the 14th-century builders. The east respond of the bay (a half-hexagon) and the two-centred arch are of the 14th century, like the others. Above the arcades are the original windows of the 14th-century clearstory, three on each side. Each is a quatrefoil with inner splays and segmental-pointed rear-arch. The outsides of them are concealed by the aisle roofs.

The north aisle (c. 12 ft. wide) has two modern windows like that to the chapel, east of the north doorway. The eastern has old plastered splays inside and segmental rear-arch. The third window, west of the doorway, is of three elliptically headed lights probably of early-16th-century date, partly restored. It has a crude external label. The doorway, of two chamfered orders and with a pointed head, has been restored. In the west wall is a modern window of three trefoiled lights and vertical tracery.

The walls are of rubble with much mortar and have a chamfered plinth. Between the chapel and aisle is a heavy modern buttress. Both east and west walls show the later alteration to a steeper pitch, in squared stonework, and a still later strip of repair at the top. At the north-east angle of the chapel is a diagonal buttress partly buried in the wall of the vestry.

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The south aisle (11½ ft. wide) has three south windows: the eastern of three lights like those in the chapels, with old plastered splays, the other two, each of three lights, entirely modern, as is the west window. The south doorway, of two chamfered orders and two-centred head, has been reset, except the outer order of the jambs, which are covered with old plaster. The walls show, more distinctly than on the north, the later heightening. At the south-east angle of the chapel is a diagonal buttress of ashlar, possibly original. Between the chapel and nave-aisle, and east of the porch, are two very heavy buttresses, 16th- or 17th-century enlargements of original buttresses. At the west end is another of the 14th century, projecting southwards.

The west tower (18 ft. square) is built of rubble, in one unbroken stage, up to the string-course below the bell-chamber: above this it is of squared rough ashlar and has a corbel-table of trefoiled arches and an embattled parapet. The string-course is of plain sloping section. At the two west angles are 15th-century diagonal buttresses of three stages reaching to the string-course: they are of rough squared ashlar, and have plain offsets and chamfered plinths. The main walls have no plinth. Against the west wall are two modern buttresses and on the south side a modern stair-turret. The 14th-century archway to the nave has semi-octagonal responds of small courses, with moulded bases and capitals and a pointed head of two chamfered orders of small voussoirs, as in the south arcade. The west doorway is of two chamfered orders with base-stops, and a pointed head: the impost moulding was of the same section as the abaci in the archway but has now mostly perished. Above it is a fairly large lancet window, and in the north and south walls are smaller lancets, the southern covered by the modern stair-turret. The second story has a small lancet in each wall: the eastern looks into the church below the nave ceiling. The bell chamber has a lancet in the middle of each wall and two others, rather smaller, set to the east of the north and south windows. These lancets differ from those below in being of two chamfered orders instead of one, but the inner order has been cut away in some of them for additional light: all have slate luffers. Above the tower rises a tall slender octagonal spire, splayed out to square at the base and covered with oak shingles: at the apex is a ball and weather-cock.

The north porch is modern, except the middle tie-beam, which may be of the 15th century. It is of timber-framing on dwarf stone walls and has glazed side-lights and a pointed entrance. The south porch has also been renewed, except for a 15th-century truss with a cambered tie-beam and curved braces.

The roofs of the chancel and nave are of one date and design. From the badges &c. in the bosses they appear to have been erected by Edward Nevill, Lord Bergavenny, c. 1460. The chancel is divided into three bays by two intermediate tie-beams and the nave into four bays with five tie-beams, one at each end and three between. These tie-beams are moulded and embattled and are supported by moulded wall-posts and curved brackets: the spandrels are filled with varying tracery, some with red rose centres: in the west truss of the nave the north spandrel has a shield gules with two interlacing staples (gold), a Nevill badge, and on the south side a scroll inscribed 'Jhesu maria'. The wall plates repeat the moulding of the ties. The trusses

obtrude on the three north clearstory windows, and on the westernmost on the south side. The roofs are of trussed rafter and collar-beam type and have wagon ceilings of five sides, divided into panels by moulded ribs, which have bosses at the intersections, variously carved: in the chancel most are of leaves with interlacing stalks, but others have (1) the crowned monogram SR, (2) a flat shield gilded and with faint traces of the letters ihs, (3) a foliage or floral carving, possibly a fleur de lis, over which has been nailed a similar flat shield with ihs, (4) a crowned gilded portcullis with apparently lion supporters, painted red, (5) and (6) red roses, (7) a red griffin, (8) and (9) interlacing staples. In the nave are similar badges, including the interlacing staples, and red roses and a black bull with a chain. The panels are covered with modern paintings. The corbels on which the trusses rest have modern angels holding shields and scrolls. The roofs of the chapels and aisles have modern boarded soffits, and the only signs of age are several corbels and short posts in the nave-aisles bolted to the wall at the 15th-century heightening, and one ancient plain principal rafter exposed above the organ.

In the vestry is a 17th-century framed oak chest of hutch type, 4 ft. by 1 ft. 9 in. by 1 ft. 9 in. high: it has three locks and strap-hinges. The font has a round bowl which has been broken, patched, reworked, and relined with lead: it may be of the 13th century: it is carried on modern shafts. In the south chapel is a second piscina, a plain round basin in a square-headed recess. In the south wall east of the main south doorway is a mutilated holy-water stoup with a round-headed niche, and in the south porch is another.

There are four monumental brasses:¹¹ (1) on the south wall of the south chapel; an inscription to Gerard Borell (or Burrell), Archdeacon of Chichester and Vicar of Cuckfield (d. 17 Apr. 1509), with a shield of the arms of Burrell. (2) On the north wall of the north aisle; an inscription to Milcent wife of John Michell (d. 10 Nov. 1524). (3) In the floor of the south chapel; the standing effigy of a bearded man in Elizabethan armour, with ruff, sword, and dagger, and a mouth-scroll bearing—O PRAIS THE LORD. The inscription is lost, but the two shields, dexter, Bowyer, and sinister, Bowyer impaling Vaux, show that it commemorates the same Henry Bowyer as the next. (4) On the north wall of the south chapel; on a panel flanked by Ionic shafts of black marble and alabaster, with a moulded shelf and entablature, the effigies of a man in Elizabethan armour and his wife kneeling at a prayer-desk, with three sons and two daughters kneeling behind them; above is a shield of arms of Bowyer impaling Vaux; the inscription commemorates Henry Bowyer and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Thomas Vaux of Caterlen, near Penrith; no date is given, but he died in 1589.

There are numerous mural monuments and tablets of later date. Many of these are to members of the Burrell family; one in the south chapel, to Ninian second son of Ninian Burrell (d. 10 Nov. 1629) has his kneeling effigy in a recess with curtains held open by standing angels. There are also several to members of the Sergison family, including one, on the north side of the sanctuary, to Charles Sergison, Commissioner of the Navy (d. 26 Nov. 1732, aged 78), representing a sarcophagus on which is seated a figure of Truth holding a plaque carved with his portrait, also supported by a cherub, carved by Thomas Adey.

¹¹ For illustrations and details, see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxvii, 156–60.

High on the south wall of the chancel is a funeral helm of the Tudor period, with a beaver; it is reputed to be that of Sir Walter Hendley, and is set between two banner-staves.

In the tower are preserved the disused works and frame of a clock, dated 1667, with the initials I. L.: it was in use until 1867 and was placed here in 1904.

Of the eight bells, six were re-cast and two others added in 1815.¹²

The communion plate includes two silver cups of 1636 inscribed 'Cockfield in Sothsex'; two patens of 1682 given by Tobias Henshaw, vicar and Archdeacon of Lewes; a stand-paten of 1726; two pewter flagons (1628), and two pewter patens.¹³

The registers begin in 1598.¹⁴

The churchyard is spacious and well kept. There are modern lych-gates at the north and north-west entrances. South of the church are a number of 17th- and 18th-century head-stones.

Three ledger slabs re-laid at the entrance to the north porch are probably ancient: one is of Petworth marble: no inscriptions are visible. North of the church is a memorial cross to four who died in the South African War, 1900-2, and south of the church another to those who died in the Great War of 1914-18.

The parish church of St. Mark, Staplefield, designed by B. Ferrey in 1847, consists of a chancel and nave in the style of the 13th century, with a west bell-cote. It has a memorial of the Great War in marble with bronze name-plates and a middle mosaic of St. George, and another bronze memorial to Boy Scouts who died during the war.

The church of Cuckfield was *ADVOWSON* granted to the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes by William de Warenne between 1091 and 1098.¹⁵ In 1250 St. Richard, Bishop of Chichester, ordained a vicarage with a resident priest, the rectorial tithes remaining with the Priory¹⁶ while the patronage was made over to the bishop. In 1291 the rectory was worth £14 13s. 4d. and the vicarage £6 13s. 4d.,¹⁷ but in 1535 the farm of the rectory was £6, and the value of the vicarage £20 13s. 1½d.¹⁸ At the Dissolution in 1537 the Prior surrendered the rectory and advowson of Cuckfield to the king,¹⁹ who granted them in 1538 to Thomas, Lord Cromwell,²⁰ and after his attainder to Anne of Cleves in 1541.²¹ At her death in 1557 they reverted to the Crown, and were apparently given for a while to Cardinal Pole (d. 1558).²² The advowson was then for a time in the hands of the Crown, but in 1571 the Bishop of Chichester resumed his right of presentation²³ and the patronage has remained with the bishopric ever since.²⁴

In 1559 the whole of the rectory and the great tithes, were granted to James Hardwick.²⁵ The rectory consisted of a curtilage called Monkencourt and six portions of tithes called Hayworth, or Haywards, Anstye, West Bayley, Southnie, Staplefield, and Bentley.²⁶ In 1560 James Hardwick conveyed the

rectory to John Hussey²⁷ of Pains. Portions of tithes became separated among different landowners, but all are now payable to the Sergison estate.²⁸

In 1847 the parish of Staplefield was formed out of Cuckfield, the vicarage of St. Mark's Church being in the gift of the vicar of Cuckfield.

In 1865 a new parish of St. Wilfrid's, Haywards Heath was formed, and in 1910 the patronage was transferred from the vicar of Cuckfield to the Bishop of Chichester and in 1911 part of the original parish of Cuckfield was added to it. The Church of the Presentation, New England Road, and St. Edmund's church in Wivelsfield Road are attached. In 1916 a new ecclesiastical parish of St. Richard was formed from St. Wilfrid's, the Bishop of Chichester appointing the vicar.

Fanny Jemima Cleare, by will proved *CHARITIES* 24 Sept. 1927, gave £100, the income therefrom to be paid to the treasurer of Cuckfield Congregational Church for the benefit of the Sunday School connected with the said church. The income derived from the investment of the legacy amounts to £4.

Leonora Emily Maberly, by will proved 15 Dec. 1922, gave £100 to be applied by the vicar to the Clergy Endowment Fund. The endowment produces about £3 10s. annually.

The Hon. Jane Whitchurch Chichester, by will proved 23 Nov. 1929, bequeathed £250 to the vicar and churchwardens, the income to be applied towards the maintenance of the parish church. The endowment produces £8 10s. annually.

William Stevens, by will proved 29 Nov. 1934, gave premises known as White Cottage, Cuckfield, to the Sussex Congregational Union, the income to be paid to the treasurer of the Congregational Church at Cuckfield towards the maintenance of the minister or of services in the church or towards the upkeep of the fabric of the church. The cottage has been sold and the income derived from the investment of the proceeds of sale amounts to £22 10s.

Middleton and Burrell's Charities. The Rev. Robert Middleton bequeathed £30, the interest to be applied to school poor children of the parish. Timothy Burrell, by will dated in 1716, gave a further £20 upon the same trusts; he also gave a further £100 to be laid out in the purchase of land, the rent to be applied in providing bread for six poor persons. The several sums were laid out in the purchase of a freehold messuage in Cuckfield on the above-mentioned trusts. The charities are now regulated by schemes of the Charity Commissioners, dated 1 Feb. 1895 and 11 Sept. 1934, which provide for a body of trustees to administer the charities, and direct that one third of the income shall be applied to educational purposes and the remaining two thirds to pensions to poor persons who have resided in the parish for not less than five years preceding their appointment.

¹² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 206.

¹³ *Ibid.* liv, 250.

¹⁴ The Registers from 1598 to 1699 have been printed by the Sussex Record Society, vol. xiii.

¹⁵ *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.*), i, 15.

¹⁶ Cooper, *op. cit.* 25.

¹⁷ *Tax. Eccl.* 136.

¹⁸ *Valor Eccl.* i, 326, 334.

¹⁹ Feet of F. Div. Co. Mich. 29 Hen. VIII.

²⁰ *L. & P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (i), g. 384 (74).

²¹ *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

²² Deeds, Coll. B. Lewes, 97.

²³ Cooper, *op. cit.* 38.

²⁴ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

²⁵ i.e. *Tota illa rectoria nostra et ecclesia nostra*: Cooper, *op. cit.* 37, quoting Pat. R. 2 Eliz. pt. viii, m. 6.

²⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 117, note.

²⁷ *Ibid.* 117.

²⁸ Cf. *ibid.* 117-18; xx, 292, 447, 450; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxxv, 60; Deeds, Coll. B. 99, 102, 113, 121; Coll. l, 24.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

WEST HOATHLY

Hadlega, Hodlega (xi cent.); Hodlegh (xiv cent.); Hothelegh (xvi cent.).

This parish has an area of 5,263 acres. The railway line from Haywards Heath to East Grinstead crosses the southern tip of the parish and, joining that from Lewes, skirts the eastern side, penetrating the ridge by a tunnel. The village is in the centre of the parish, on a high ridge reaching a level of 600 ft. just north of it, and along which runs a road from Turners Hill to Wych Cross. The station is about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east of the village, just north of the tunnel, on the line from Lewes to East Grinstead. About a mile and a half west of the village are Stonelands and Rockhurst (or Chiddingly), a little south of which is an outcrop of sandstone cliffs with the rock 'Great upon Little'. The ridge on which the village of West Hoathly stands is followed by the road north-west to Selsfield Common, where a height of 602 ft. is reached, and here the road joins the main one from Lindfield to Caterham. North of the village the ground slopes down to Gravetye Manor, and to the south the land falls again, in two long narrow ridges, on one of which is Hook Farm, and on the other a road leading to the village of Highbrook, in the south of the parish, a separate ecclesiastical parish since 1882, with All Saints Church, at a level of about 400 ft.

A Countess of Huntingdon chapel was built in West Hoathly in 1826.

The soil is clay, with a subsoil of sand, and the land is mainly pasture.

The oldest part of the village lies in the street running approximately north and south, west of the church. The Manor House is on the west side of the street opposite the church. It was built as a dower house in 1627 by the Infields of Gravetye.¹ Certain features suggest alterations at different periods, but from the records it seems that Mrs. Infield was in the habit of changing her mind during the erection of the building. The original plan was obviously to be of the normal half-H form with well-projected wings in front and possibly a middle porch. The middle part, however, normally the hall in an earlier house, was pinched in length to less than two-thirds of the breadth of either of the gabled wings, and the principal room or parlour was allocated the whole of the north wing. Mrs. Infield's alterations are apparent first in having the front of the middle part brought out so that the wings projected merely a foot or so, and in the disposition of the interior of the middle part: this was provided with a north passage 6 ft. 9 in. wide from the front entrance next to the parlour. As this left, south of the passage, only a small chamber, its south wall was moved a few feet to encroach on the south wing, so that the elevation of this wing gives a false idea of the size of the rooms behind it. The main staircase is set behind the front face of this wing—a most unusual position.

The walls are of ashlar, with stone-mullioned windows: in the east front of the north wing they are of six lights to the ground floor—the great parlour—, four to the first floor, and three to the second. In the south wing they are similar, except that the ground-floor window is only of four lights. The upper windows have labels: a string-course along the whole front forms the drip-stone to the ground-floor windows: this string-course is continued inside, on the south side of the north

wing, evidently being in position before the narrow entrance hall was built between the wings.

The middle part contains the entrance doorway, next the north wing, with a four-centred and square head, and next to it are two windows of three lights. Above is a window of nine lights. All these windows have moulded mullions. There are similar windows in the other walls; one on the south side, of six lights, was altered to form a garden doorway in the 17th century. There are projecting chimney-stacks on both north and south sides and one at the back, with plain shafts of 17th-century bricks. The roofs are covered with Horsham slabs. The forecourt to the house is closed by a 17th-century brick wall in which is a round-arched gateway of stone.

The inner doorway in the entrance hall has been set inside out: it has a four-centred head and above it are the remains of a two-light window of stone. Next south is a borrowed light and an oak post to support the wall above. These openings are in the original intended east front. The long room in the north wing has a wide fire-place with a wood lintel; the other rooms have moulded stone arched and square-headed fire-places. The parlour in the south wing has early-17th-century panelling and a chimney-piece with pilasters and arched bays to the overmantel. At the east end of the long north room is a dais, two steps up, with a balustrade. This and the main staircase in the south wing have heavy turned balusters, newels or posts with moulded and acorn heads, and moulded handrails. Several of the upper rooms are lined with 17th-century panelling of different periods. There is no distinctive roof construction visible in the attics.

A house a little farther north on the same side, now two tenements, is of about 1550. The lower story of the east front is of modern bricks above a stone plinth, the upper story tile-hung. The southernmost bay projects slightly and is gabled: the upper story was originally jettied but is now underbuilt. On the south side is a fine chimney-stack, 10½ ft. wide, of stone with gathered-in sides and a brick upper part with two square shafts; and at the back is another, also of stone, with a square shaft of thin bricks. Both have wide fire-places and the ceilings are open-timbered: one staircase up to the attics is of solid oak balks.

The Cat Inn, north of the church, is of the early 16th century, with a later inserted central chimney-stack having a wide fire-place. The walls are of brick and tile-hung facing, but the ancient framing is visible inside: one lower room has an original moulded beam, and another very wide flat joists, while highly cambered tie-beams are to be seen in the upper rooms.

'The Priest House', at the south end of the street on the west side, is a 15th-century house facing approximately east. The rectangular plan is of five bays, the two northernmost being the original solar wing, the next two the great hall, and the southernmost the buttery. The original pointed doorway to the screens, next to the buttery, is now blocked and another doorway made next north of it. As in other small houses of this period, the roof was continued from end to end with an unbroken ridge line; it retains three of the ancient trusses; one, the middle truss of the hall, had arched braces below the tie-beam; one brace still re-

¹ *Ex inf.* Mrs. Ridley.

mains: the next to the north was the closed framing of the end of the hall and has a king-post strutted from the tie-beam; and the third, the middle truss of the solar, is similar. In the 16th century an upper floor was inserted in the hall and the central chimney-stack built in the south bay of the hall, right against the middle truss, but as it did not fill the whole bay the framing of the south end-wall was removed and the space thrown into the buttery wing. It has fire-places 8½ ft. and 6½ ft. wide in the lower story with stone jambs and wood bressummers, and one on the first floor, in the north side, has moulded stone jambs and four-centred arch in a square head. The buttery has original wide flat ceiling-beams: those in the middle bay are stop-chamfered, and those in the solar wing are rougher and probably later repairs. The remains of one original window with diamond-shaped mullions are left in the back wall of the buttery, and there are others of the 16th or 17th century. The house, once two tenements, has a staircase at each end. The walls are of framing with plaster infilling and in part covered with weatherboarding. The roof is tiled. The building was reconditioned by Mr. J. Godwin King, who presented it to the Sussex Archaeological Trust in 1935.

Of the buildings on the other (east) side of the street, two at least date from the 17th century, on the evidence of their chimney-stacks, of thin bricks and cross-shaped plan.

Duckyls Holt, about ¼ mile north-north-west of the church, is a 15th-century house retaining remains of the usual king-post and central purlin roof-construction, but has been much renovated. All the rooms have open-timbered ceilings and the central chimney-stack, inserted c. 1600, has wide fire-places. Timber-framing shows in the external walls of the upper story and the roof is tiled.

Stonelands is largely modern, but it incorporates, at its south end, a stone-built wing, with gabled east and west ends, of c. 1580, and south of that a still earlier wing of timber-framing, the present kitchen, of c. 1500, the two parts forming a T-shaped plan with the kitchen as the stem: in the angle of its west side with the stone wing is a square winding staircase, and this is faced on its outer (west) front with a gabled stone wall contemporary with the larger gable-end. Old timber-framing is seen inside and the ceiling is open-timbered. The kitchen has a 9-ft.-wide fire-place with a lintel, but in front of the chimney-breast on both floors are cross-beams with mortices, indicating the position of the early Tudor open fire and flue over, preceding the Elizabethan chimney-stack. The room in the 1580 wing has a fire-place, backing the kitchen fire-place, with stone jambs and oak lintel; in it is one of the fire-backs with the 'Anne Forster' epitaph.² The room has 17th-century panelling and an open-timbered ceiling, and the room above has an arched stone fire-place. The stairs in the lower part have been altered, but are ancient from the first floor to the attics and have a central newel with a pear-shaped head. There is a very heavy door to the stairs, on the first floor, hung with strap-hinges: it is perhaps the original front door refixed; there are also several other ancient battened doors. The east and west ends of the 1580 wing have stone mullioned windows; there are also cellar windows in the chamfered plinth. The gable-heads have pinnacles on the kneelers and at the apices, and the staircase gable has a two-light window. Next south of the stair was the former front

entrance to the present kitchen-wing, now altered to a window. The roofs are tiled and the chimney-stack, of fairly large bricks, is of cross-shaped plan.

Gravetye Manor House is a three-storied building of local stone erected about 1600 by Richard Infield, an iron founder. It faces south and appears to have been built in two parallel ranges of unequal length, the southern of four bays and the northern of three; the bay lacking at the east end is now occupied by the modern staircase. The south porch was added a little later and bears the initials of Henry Faulconer, the husband of Richard's daughter Agnes: her gravestone in the church is dated 1635. Mr. William Robinson added a long wing to the east of the older part extending to the north. He also renovated the ancient part: the upper ceilings appear to have been lowered to give height to the top rooms and now encroach on the heads of the windows of the second story. The south front has the normal Elizabethan stone windows of four lights to the first and second stories, with moulded mullions, transoms and labels, and three lights to the third story: there are also four basement windows. The eaves-cornice is heavily moulded and broken up by four detached gables to the third story: these have corbelled kneelers and pinnacles. The porch has a round-arched entrance and a similar gable in which is a panel with the initials H F. Between the two middle windows of the second story are traces of a panel with a pedimental head. The west elevation has two similar but wider gable-heads and like windows. In the middle of the ground floor is a four-centred and square-headed doorway with spandrels carved with the initials R I and K I.³ About this opening are traces of 18th-century pilasters and pedimented hood, now removed for a modern porch.

The north elevation is a repetition of the south front without the doorway, except that the easternmost bay is cemented, and, instead of the heavy eaves-cornice, there is merely a narrow half-round string-course below the eaves gutters. The roofs are covered with modern Colley Weston slates and in the valley between the two ranges is a range of chimney-stacks of varying types, some of which are probably modern. The easternmost has two star-shaped shafts, the middle has a square shaft between two detached diagonal shafts (this group is probably the oldest), the westernmost has conjoined diagonal shafts. There is also a modern chimney-stack over the east part of the north range.

Internally the chimney-pieces are the most interesting features. The western three-fourths of the south range forms a large hall or parlour with an original dais at the west end. It has a north fire-place with moulded stone jambs: the modern overmantel incorporates two carved panels of the early 17th century. The room is lined with modern panelling. The eastern smaller chamber has a similar north fire-place with spandrels carved with rosettes and foliage and an overmantel of six panels in two tiers carved with arabesque ornament and bearing the date 1603. The room is lined with early-17th-century panelling with a fluted frieze. The doorway now opening from the stair hall has moulded stone jambs, and above it is a two-light window, presumably once external. The western room in the north range also has an overmantel of three panels of arabesque ornament dated 1603 and a moulded cornice. The chamber above this has a moulded stone fire-place with the initials R I and K I carved in the spandrels. It is flanked by Ionic fluted pilasters and has a fluted mantel

² Cf. n. 27, p. 131.

³ Richard Infield married Katharine Compton.

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frieze and shelf. The overmantel is of two bays divided and flanked by fluted pilasters and containing round-headed panels carved in low relief with half-length portraits of Richard Infield and his wife in Elizabethan costume. The room is lined with late-16th-century panelling. Above the hall are two chambers entered by a moulded stone doorway with an arched and square head: it has a plain heavy oak door hung with strap-hinges. Inside (south of) it is a small lobby with doors fixed askew to open into the two rooms, and meeting the partition that divides them. This partition is of early-17th-century panelling divided on both faces into three bays by fluted pilasters: the doors are of similar panelling and their hinges are partly of original cock's-head type. The western room has similar panelling on the other walls and the stone fire-place has moulded jambs and four-centred arch in a square head with a fluted frieze dated AN^o DO. 1598. The eastern room also has some old panelling on the south wall. The carved overmantel, apparently re-set, is of three early-17th-century panels with a fluted frieze. The easternmost room is entered by a moulded stone arched door-way from the stair hall, but it has a two-light window over it like that to the room below. The door is a heavy one of battens, nail-studded. The ceiling of the stair-hall encroaches on the head of the window, but inside the room a half-round rear-arch is raised above the general ceiling-level to clear the head. The room has a stone fire-place like the others and an early-17th-century overmantel of three panels carved with plants or flowers in low relief within half-round arches and divided by Ionic pilasters; a frieze below the panels is carved with dragons and arabesque ornament. Several of the fire-places have 17th-century iron fire-backs. The main staircase is modern. There are no noticeable ancient features in the third story.

The house is set on a plateau which is terraced and has a steep incline south of it. There is an old disused sunken road leading up to the west of the site from the south, which local legend connects with smuggling expeditions. West of this road and about 200 yards south-west of the great house is the earlier manor house, now known as Little Gravetye. This is a timber-framed house facing south-east and of rectangular plan in three bays and a chimney-bay. The middle bay and the south-west bay, with the narrower chimney-bay between them, date probably from about 1500. The south-west bay retains heavy ceiling beams and wide joists of that period: the middle bay has stop-chamfered beams and lighter chamfered joists and appears to have been an open hall with a chimney space at its south-west end, into which the stone-built chimney-stack was inserted when the hall was converted into two stories later in the 16th century. The north-east bay was probably built at this time; it is obviously an addition, as it has separate story-posts and open framing close against the older closed north-east end. The roof framing is of the usual early Tudor type with wind-braced side-purlins and wide flat rafters; over the north-east bay are heavy collar-beams. The central chimney-stack has a wide fire-place with stone jambs and oak bressummer in its east face. An original beam crosses the front of the chimney-breast on this face, another on the west face is partly sunk in the masonry.

The house has been renovated: some of the main posts in the front have had their lower ends cut away; the south-west gabled end has been refaced with stone and a modern porch has been added.

Tickeridge, a farm-house standing on a mound above the road, close to Kingscote Station, is a late-14th-century house facing approximately east and west. It differs in several ways from the 15th-century houses in the district. It had a great hall of two 13-ft. bays: it was 15 ft. wide and had, in addition, side-aisles 4½ ft. deep, the roof of the main body being continued down over them. At the north end is the solar wing of two stories, its roof-ridge being lower than that of the hall and at right-angles to it: the east and west ends of the lower story are in line with the aisle-walls, but the upper story is jettied at both ends and has half-gables. The buttery at the south end was treated as a continuation of the hall, but probably in two stories, the braced side-framing or quasi-arcade to the aisles being also continued in the upper story to assist the roof-construction.⁴ The central chimney-stack was inserted in the 16th century in the south bay of the hall, right against the middle truss: it is 8 ft. thick and has a great stone fire-place towards the north bay, 11 ft. wide and 4 ft. 8 in. deep, with a chamfered oak bressummer. On the west side of it was an oven, now removed. The usual upper floor was inserted at the same time in the hall; it has a chamfered cross-beam against the chimney-breast and chamfered longitudinal joists. In the north wall of the hall is seen the 14th-century moulded wall-beam, 1 ft. 5 in. in height, and flanking it are doorways from the aisles into the two rooms of the solar wing: the eastern—the better-preserved—has a stop-chamfered square-headed frame and shows no traces of an arch: in it is a 16th-century door of four vertical panels with moulded muntins. The post at the west end of the moulded beam, next the door, has been supplemented by another post on which is carved F. H. 1748. In the upper story of the north bay is seen the side-framing of the 15-ft. main body of the hall dividing it from the aisles: each side has a purlin supported by vertical curved braces forming almost an arch. Except for a recessed dormer-window on the east side, they are filled in, so that the continued roofs over the aisles are not visible; a wider joist in the ceiling below indicates the position of each. The north end-wall, in which the moulded beam is set, had similar curved braces, but only the eastern remains in place: the wall is otherwise of square framing. None of the roof-construction above the present ceiling can be seen. The middle truss of the hall is also buried in the facing of the chimney-breast, but on the south side, in the spaces next to the chimney-stack—that is, on the site of the upper parts of the aisles—the ends of the trusses are partly exposed. To the east is seen a 14-inch tie-beam, or collar-beam, a heavy principal rafter, and a curved brace under their junction. To the west it is similar, but the curved brace has been removed, probably for a former doorway. In the eastern upper room of the former buttery there is side-framing similar to that in the sides of the hall for the aisles, but here in skeleton form. The partition which formed the south end-wall of the hall has shaped story-posts and curved braces in this story, as at the north end of the hall, but in the lower story most of the framing

⁴ As it was not possible at the time of the visit to examine the roof-construction in its entirety, owing to the upper ceilings, it cannot be affirmed with certainty that the aisles are original with the hall. An-

other theory may be that the 15-ft. hall and buttery were widened on the east and west sides to 24 ft., the original side-framing being left in place in the upper story,

when the chimney-stack, &c., were inserted in the 16th century. This, however, would have been a very exceptional method of enlarging the building.

has been removed. This part had no fire-places until recent years. In order to fit it as a separate tenement, a thin chimney-stack has been built-in parallel with the back of the ancient chimney-stack, but with a narrow straight staircase between the two. Most of the partition has been cleared away to create recesses in front of the new fire-places, leaving a few studs in position to support the superstructure. The ceilings of the rooms are plastered, but stop-chamfered posts and wall-beams are exposed in the outer walls. The north solar wing has very heavy flat joists (exposed in the ceiling of the western lower room) and they appear below the overhang outside. The upper rooms have chamfered ceiling-joists of the 17th century and the roof-construction is concealed.

Externally, the hall and buttery have square framing without any brace-timbers, but the lower parts have been largely replaced by 18th-century brick-work. The west end of the solar wing has five curved brackets under the overhang, four of which have been renewed. Both stories have curved braces, turned inwards from the outer angle-posts; the half-gable head has an old moulded barge-board. The wall is built on stone foundations and has an old plain doorway. The east end of the wing shows similar curved braces in the lower story, but the projecting upper story is covered with weather-boarding. The north side is covered entirely with similar boarding above modern brick foundations. The wing has higher eaves and a lower ridge than those of the hall.

A doorway in the west front opens into a lobby next to the chimney-stacks; the door is a plain one, but is hung with a pair of ornamental strap-hinges, with branches, the ends of which have stamped rosette patterns: they are probably of the 14th or 15th century. In the hall is an ancient table 12 ft. 3 in. long by 2 ft. 9 in. wide, and the bressummer of the great fire-place still has affixed to it the winding apparatus for the 16th- or 17th-century turnspit: one long spit also survives.

The roofs are tiled. Dormer windows with hipped roofs in the east side light the upper story of the former hall and buttery. The central chimney-stack is of 17th- or 18th-century bricks above the roof, with a modern top.

East of the house is a 16th-century barn of five bays with braced tie-beams; the original roof-timbers above the tie-beams have been removed.

Chiddingly Farm, west of the village, has the remains of a two-bay hall of the 15th century, about 24 ft. by 18 ft. wide and facing east, with a late-16th-century wing behind it, equalling in width the length of the hall. The roof-trusses are of the usual king-post and central purlin type, the middle truss having large curved braces below a highly cambered tie-beam. The lower halves of the trusses are exposed in the upper bedrooms: the upper halves, with the wide flat rafters, &c., above the ceilings, are smoke-blackened. At the south end of the hall, on the ground floor, is a moulded wall-beam which has mortices and peg-holes for studs other than those now in the partition below it. These, although ancient in appearance, are said to have been placed in position in modern times, and therefore it is possible the beam also was brought from elsewhere. On the west side of the hall is a wide fire-place with stone jambs, probably ante-dating the late-16th-century back wing, which has a wider fire-place backing it. The later wing has a lower floor, with steps down to it from the hall, and the ceiling has moulded cross-beams, and wall-

beams which are carried round the recesses flanking the chimney-stack. On the first floor the beams are chamfered and the chimney-stack has an arched and square stone fire-place. The older walls are covered with tile-hanging, except the north side of the Elizabethan wing, which is of ashlar stone-work, perhaps of later repair. Windows in both north and west walls of the wing are original and have moulded mullions and transoms. The roof of the wing is modern and now shows two gables over the west wall. The chimney-stack of the old part is of cross-shaped plan.

There is also a 16th-century barn of four bays with original trusses.

Philpots, south-west of the church, mentioned in 1721 under the name of 'Barleylands', appears to be of 15th-century origin but rebuilt about 1600 with the re-use of some mutilated 15th-century timbers. It was of rectangular plan, with a dairy at the east end, and in the 19th century wings were added to both the east and west ends. The principal room in the old part has a ceiling-beam against its east wall with a wide chamfer, and below it is a deep straight coving of plaster sloping back to the partition, which is also of old framing of the 16th or 17th century. At the south end of this beam is an ancient heavy post, now hacked back below the top, and south of it, in line with the beam but set rather askew, is a chamfered and cambered lintel of a doorway with peg-holes showing that it originally had an arch below it. The lintel comes against the south wall of the room and there are no indications that the recess which it spans was ever used as a doorway. The room has a 12-in. longitudinal ceiling-beam with foliage stops to the chamfers, and on the west side is a wide fire-place. The room next east has a 6-ft.-wide fire-place on its east side: below the chamber is a cellar cut out of the living rock and above it old framing with blocked windows is visible in the front wall. A modern staircase has been built out north of it, but from the first floor to the attic is an ancient winding stair with a central newel. The roofs show no old features. The walls are mostly tile-hung or brick, the modern parts of stone.

Hook Farm, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south-south-west of the church, is a stone-fronted building, apparently of the end of the 16th century, rectangular in plan, with a stone fire-place 8 ft. wide at its north end, where is a modern cross-wing. The room with the wide fire-place has a stop-chamfered ceiling-beam, and an unusual feature is a rounded alcove in the south wall with an 18th-century dresser: some of the upper rooms also have open-timbered ceilings. Most of the windows, &c., are modern, but in the gabled south end, which is partly of stone, is a blocked window to the upper floor with chamfered jambs, &c., probably of the 16th century.

Pickeridge is an Elizabethan building with timber-framed walls covered with tile-hanging and weather-boarding. The plan is L-shaped; the gabled cross-wing at the east end has a projecting chimney-stack of stone on its east side with a brick shaft, which has a moulded base and a V-shaped pilaster on the outer face. Inside is a Tudor moulded stone fire-place with a mutilated four-centred arch in a square head. The main body has a central chimney-stack of plain square form above the tiled roof, with a wide fire-place towards the middle room. The ceilings are plastered and some of the main beams encased: others, to the middle room and to the upper rooms in the wing, are chamfered, with moulded stops. The upper part of the wall between the main

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part and the wing shows ancient framing, including a heavy and highly cambered tie-beam on shaped posts, but above this the timbers appear to be later. In the north-east corner of the east wing is an original semi-winding staircase from ground floor to attic, with a central oak newel. There is also a cellar below the wing with heavy ceiling joists.

The farm buildings include a 16th-century barn of five bays: it has queen-post trusses with curved braces under the tie-beams, similar curved braces in the side walls, and curved wind-braces to the roof-purlins. A cottage just east of the farm is probably a converted outbuilding of the 16th or 17th century: it has weather-boarded walls and steeply pitched tiled roof, formerly thatched.

Highbrook is a hamlet $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of West Hoathly village. The modern church of All Saints is built in the late-13th-century style and consists of a chancel, nave, north aisle, south porch, and a tower north of the chancel with a shingled oak spire.

Among the buildings near the church, at least four are of the 17th century or earlier. Highbrook House, about 200 yards south of the church, retains vestiges of a 15th-century great hall of two 13 ft. bays, with the usual wings north and south of it, probably all under one continuous roof. In the upper story can be seen the shaped story-posts and highly cambered tie-beam of the middle truss of the hall, all with mortices and peg-holes for a former arch below the tie-beam. The framing of the north end wall is also exposed, with one remaining curved brace. A floor was inserted in the 16th century and a chimney-stack built in the south bay, with an 8-ft. fire-place of stone having an oak lintel cut in the form of a four-centred arch with sunk spandrels: there is also carved in the centre of the face of it a circle containing a six-pointed star. Apart from chamfered ceiling-beams and some old ceiling-joists in an upper room, the interior is modernized. Some external framing is exposed in the back (east) wall. The old part is sandwiched between a long parallel addition of brick in front (west) and a shorter parallel addition at the back.

Three houses opposite Highbrook House have brick and tile-hung walls and tiled roofs with 17th-century central chimney-stacks of thin bricks and of the usual rebated type. One, 'Willards Cottage', shows some traces inside of a 15th- or early-16th-century origin, but has been reconditioned and many of the ancient timbers removed. Sheriffs Cottages and Sheriffs Farm, farther south, are buildings of similar kind and date, with rebated central chimney-stacks, wide fire-places, and open-timbered ceilings.

The White Hart Inn on the Ardingly road, is probably a 17th-century building, showing timber-framing in all walls. The central chimney-stack is of 18th-century bricks. 'Hoathly Hill', nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east of the church, is largely modern but has on its west side a 16th- or early-17th-century projecting chimney-stack of stone with a shaft of thin bricks.

There was no manor of West Hoathly, *MANORS* but part of the parish belonged to the manor of Ditchling, in Streat Hundred (q.v.). Another portion (sometimes called a manor) belonged to the manor of Plumpton, also in Streat Hundred (q.v.), being held by the Bardolfs and their successors.⁵

The manor of *GRAVETYE* was held in the early 17th century of the manor of Streat.⁶ A family of that name was living in West Hoathly in the 13th and 14th centuries. Michael and Bartholomew de Gravetye were holding land in this district in 1296,⁷ and a Bartholomew occurs between 1327⁸ and 1332,⁹ but nothing further is known of the family.

Gravetye first appears as a manor in 1571, when Richard Infield died seised of it, leaving an infant son Richard.¹⁰ The second Richard died in 1619,¹¹ and his eldest son, a third Richard, in 1625, when it passed by will to his brother James Infield,¹² who died without issue in 1633.¹³ Gravetye then passed to his widow Mary, who subsequently married the Rev. John Killingworth,¹⁴ and with him, in 1635, settled the manor on three of James Infield's sisters and their husbands, namely Agnes and Henry Faulconer, Cordell and John Watson, and Bridget Infield,¹⁵ who afterwards married John Saunders. They were still holding the manor in 1647,¹⁶ but in 1651 it is said to have been conveyed by Henry Faulconer (presumably the sur-



INFIELD. Gules a scutcheon in an orle of martlets or.



PAYNE. Party fessewise sable and argent two lions passant counterchanged.

viving heir) to Edward Payne.¹⁷ The latter died in 1660 and Gravetye passed to his second son Richard, and in turn to his son and grandson, both Richard, and in 1732 to the last Richard's brother Thomas.¹⁸ Thomas Payne died in 1763 and his son Thomas Holles Payne sold the manor in 1791 to William Clifford, timber merchant;¹⁹ a Mr. Reynolds, a minor, was holding it in 1835,²⁰ and in 1870 it was in the possession of F. Cayley,²¹ who died in 1874.²² Before the end of the 19th century it was purchased by William Robinson the horticulturist, who died in 1935 and left the estate to the nation to be used for the study of forestry under the Board of Agriculture.

The reputed manor of *CHITTINGLY* (now called Chiddingly) is said to have been given to the College of South Malling by Aldwulf, King of the South Saxons.²³

Land in West Hoathly was held from early times by

⁵ *Feud. Aids*, v, 130; Chan. Inq. p.m. 3 Edw. III, 1st nos. 66; *ibid.* (Ser. 2) cccxi, 89; Add. MS. 39381, fol. 157.

⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccxiv, 159; dccxvii, 82.

⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 47.

⁸ *Ibid.* 180; Feet of F. *Suss. Mich.* 11 Edw. II; *ibid.* Hil. 3 Edw. III.

⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 294.

¹⁰ Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Ardingly), 241

et seq.; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 587.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 588.

¹² *Ibid.* 589.

¹³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlviii, 93-4.

¹⁴ Comber, op. cit. 243.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 186-7; *Recov. R. Mich.* 9 Chas. I, ro. 119.

¹⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 187.

¹⁷ *Suss. County Mag.* iii, 75; cf. Comber, op. cit. 201, 283.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 283, 290, 291, 292; *Misc. Gen. et. Her.*, 5th Ser., vi, 155, 161-3.

¹⁹ Add. MS. 39494, fol. 155.

²⁰ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 263. John Clifford Reynolds owned the manor in 1803; Gamekeepers' Deputations, Lewes.

²¹ Lower, *Sussex*, ii, 242.

²² Add. MS. 39494, fol. 157.

²³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxvii, 222-4.

a family of the name. William de Chytingele occurs in 1296 and 1310,²⁴ and Richard in the latter year and in 1327.²⁵ Beatrice, probably his widow, was in possession in 1332.²⁶ A John de Chytinglegh is mentioned in 1387,²⁷ and his widow Margaret seems to have conveyed the property before 1409 to John Pope and his wife Joan,²⁸ perhaps her daughter. In the Pope family Chittingly evidently descended for more than a century, for in 1536 John Pope son of John Pope of Woodhache conveyed it (then first called a manor) to Thomas Michell.²⁹ Another Thomas Michell sold it in 1577 to Robert Mills,³⁰ and his son, another Robert Mills, conveyed it in 1622 to Edward Payne.³¹ Chittingly remained in the Payne family for some time, descending from Edward to his second son Richard in 1660.³² Eventually it passed to Richard's great-nephew Charles Payne, who died in 1734,³³ leaving the manor to his daughter Anna wife of Gibbs Crawford.³⁴ Their son Charles Payne Crawford held it,³⁵ but his son Robert probably sold it with his other Sussex lands.³⁶ The estate now belongs to the Earl of Limerick, but the manorial rights have lapsed.



POPE. Or two cheverons gules and a quarter sable with a molet or therein.

The manor attached to the inappropriate *RECTORY* of West Hoathly belonged to the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes and descended with the advowson until after the death of Anne of Cleves, and in 1559 was granted to Thomas Reeves.³⁷ Next year Thomas Browne son of John Browne, who was farming the rectory from the priory in 1524, bought it,³⁸ and John Browne died seised of it in 1608, leaving a son John. He held it of the king as of his manor of East Greenwich.³⁹ The younger John's son, another John,⁴⁰ in 1695 conveyed the manor to Sir John and Francis Gyles,⁴¹ as trustees for the marriage settlement of their cousin Anne Hooper, whose second husband Robert Hooper was Attorney-General in Barbadoes.⁴² At her death in 1715 her nephew John Tidcombe was instructed to sell the manor,⁴³ and it was bought in 1731 by Robert Bostock of Otford, Kent.⁴⁴ Ellis Bostock held it in 1786;⁴⁵ in 1790 it was owned by Robert Bostock;⁴⁶ and in 1822 it was held by Robert John Stileman and James Bethune Bostock.⁴⁷ Subsequently it was sold, in 1879 to John Cotton Powell and in 1908 to J. Godwin King, by whom it was given in 1918 to his daughter Ursula Ridley, the present lady of the manor.⁴⁸

The parish church of *ST. MARGARET CHURCH* consists of a chancel, nave, south chapel, south aisle, south porch, and west tower with a modern vestry south of it. The walls are of local sandstone, the roofs covered partly with Horsham slabs and partly red tiles. The nave dates from c. 1090; it had a small square chancel, of which the north wall remains. A narrow south aisle with an arcade of two bays was added c. 1175. About the middle of the 13th

century the chancel was lengthened so that it exceeded the length of the nave. The second addition was the south chapel, c. 1270, with an arcade of two bays: an original 12th-century doorway and a 13th-century lancet window were removed from the chancel wall to the new south wall at the same time. This work was followed by the widening of the south aisle, c. 1330, to exceed slightly the width of the chapel. The west tower was the final medieval enlargement, c. 1400, and the loss of the west window of the nave necessitated the insertion of a larger window in the north wall, somewhat later in the century. Other windows had already been inserted in the chancel, one of c. 1330 in the north wall near the west end, and one of late-14th-century date at the east end of the south wall in place of the 13th-century window there. There is no evidence as to when the ancient chancel arch was destroyed, but it probably occurred when the rood was placed in position in the 15th century: certainly alterations were made then to the east respond of the nave arcade, and the upper doorway was cut through the wall. The south porch is modern, probably replacing an earlier porch. The church was restored in 1870.

The chancel (c. 37 ft. by 18½ ft.) has an east window of three lancets under a pointed head. The original window had been remodelled in the 17th century, but the lower parts of the 13th-century jambs were retained. These are of two chamfered orders outside, and the inner splays have undercut angle-shafts with moulded bases. The upper part of the window is a modern restoration based on the design of the old east window of the south chapel. The gable-head above is modern and contains a sexfoil bulls-eye window. In the eastern half of the north wall are two mid-13th-century windows close together, the eastern a single lancet and the western of two lancet-lights under a pointed main head with a quatrefoil piercing in the spandrel. The jambs are like those of the east window, the inner angle-shafts having moulded bell-capitals and bases. The rear-arches are also moulded and have conjoined labels without carved stops. Farther west is a small blocked lancet window, referred to below, not visible inside, and west of this a 14th-century window of two trefoiled ogee-heads and a quatrefoil in a two-centred main head. In the south wall were two 13th-century windows like those in the north wall, but the western was almost all destroyed for the south arcade and the eastern replaced late in the 14th century by the existing window, which is of two trefoiled lights under a square head. Of the western window, only the east splay and part of its rear-arch and hood-mould remain. The south arcade is of two bays with an octagonal middle pillar and responds to match. The moulded capitals differ little in contour from those in the 13th-century windows. The arches are two-centred and of two chamfered orders.

The walls are of rubble. There is about 14 ft. of coursed rubble in the north wall similar to that of the north wall of the nave and probably of the same date.^{48a}

²⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 53; Cal. Drake Coll. 1, Lewes.

²⁵ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 180.

²⁶ *Ibid.* 295.

²⁷ *Add. Chart.* 29670.

²⁸ Feet of F. *Suss. Mich.* 11 Hen. IV.

²⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 98.

³⁰ *Ibid.* At this time (1619) land formerly part of the manor was held by Richard Infield of Gravetye: *ibid.* xiv, 588.

³¹ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Ardingly),*

283-5.

³² *Add. MS.* 39490, fol. 155.

³³ *Misc. Gen. et Her.* 5th Ser. vi, 5, 6.

³⁴ *Pat. R.* 2 Eliz. pt. ii.

³⁵ *Ex inf.* Mrs. Ridley.

³⁶ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. 2), cccvii, 24.

³⁷ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Ardingly),* 37;

Recov. R. Mich. 2 Will. and Mary, ro. 28.

³⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 481; *Recov. R.*

Trin. 7 Will. and Mary, ro. 205.

³⁹ *Suss. N. & Q.* vi (2), 37.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴¹ *Ibid.* 38. Her first husband was Samuel Tidcombe, a sugar planter.

⁴² *Ex inf.* Mrs. Ridley.

⁴³ *Add. MS.* 5683, fol. 144.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* fol. 165.

⁴⁵ *Recov. R. Trin.* 3 Geo. IV, ro. 145.

⁴⁶ *Ex inf.* Mrs. Ridley.

^{48a} Mr. J. C. Hannah, for whose account of the church (*Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxvi, 201-11) our plan was drawn, dated the walling and window c. 1200.

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In this stretch of wall is the small lancet window of the early 13th century, now blocked. This was probably an enlargement of a tiny light of the earliest period some of the jamb-stones of which remain in its west jamb. The courses of the east jamb of the lancet are larger and more finely jointed than those in the west, and the head is in one piece. East of this stretch is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. of rough masonry, indicating the position of the original east wall removed when the chancel was lengthened. A moulded string-course to the added part stops at this scar, and there is no attempt at coursing in the rubble-work. At the angles are square buttresses, original but partly restored, and the string-course is repeated in the east and south walls. The roof, of hammer-beam type, is entirely modern.

also from the chancel. In it is an ancient plain battened door repaired at the foot; it is hung with strap-hinges with foiled ends.

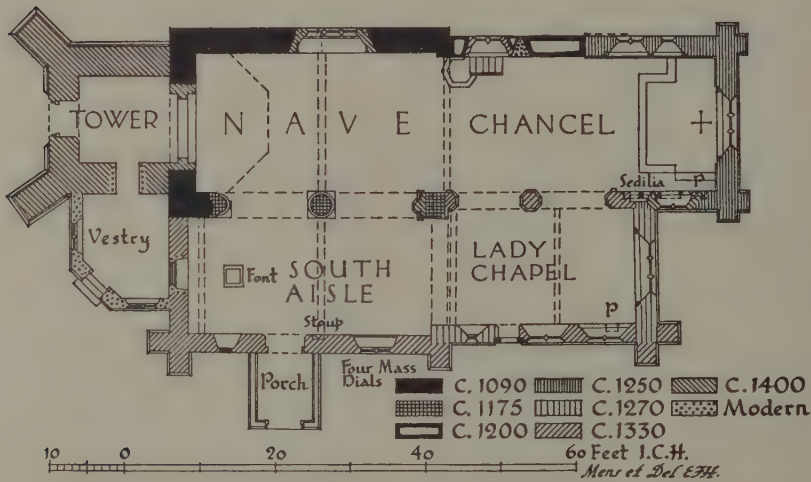
In the south wall is a trefoiled pointed piscina: it had a hood-mould, now cut away. The basin is circular and has a fluted surface.

The masonry of the east and south walls is a very irregular rubble with much ironstone and some cement facing.

The west arch of the chapel is of two chamfered orders dying on to the side walls. The roof is of trussed type and has two moulded tie-beams of the 15th century.

The nave (about $32\frac{1}{2}$ ft. by $18\frac{1}{2}$ ft.) has one north window of the 15th century; it is of three cinquefoiled

PARISH CHURCH of ST. MARGARET WEST HOATHLY



In the south wall are a piscina and sedilia of the 13th century. The piscina has a fairly large recess with moulded jambs, having moulded base-stops and a trefoiled pointed head; it has a plain half-round basin and a stone credence-shelf. The sedilia have shafted jambs like those of the windows, and intermediate partitions with attached shafts; the segmental-pointed heads are trefoiled.

The south chapel (about 25 ft. by $15\frac{1}{2}$ ft.) has an east window like that of the chancel but mostly ancient, obviously a copy of the original window of the chancel, made 20 or 30 years later. In the south wall are two windows also influenced by the side windows of the chancel, but an advance in design. They are each of two trefoiled lights under a two-centred head with a quatrefoil in the tympanum. The rest of the tracery is indicated externally by sinkings in the masonry: internally it is merely a quatrefoil piercing or plate tracery as in the chancel. West of them is a third window, a lancet with rebated jambs and head, probably used as a low-side window in the chancel wall and moved to its present position for the same purpose when the chapel was built. The sill and the lower courses of the jambs are of comparatively modern restoration. Between the lancet and the next window is a re-set 12th-century doorway with a round head of two stones, probably

lights under a segmental-pointed head with an external hood-mould. Farther east is a tiny window of the late 11th century with a round head: it is now blocked and recessed outside. Under the 15th-century window is a blocked doorway of the 13th century: it is pointed and has a head of two stones. The walling is of coursed rubble with wide joints and much mortar. There are dressings at the east and west angles also with wide joints and tooled diagonally.

The south arcade, of c. 1175, is of two bays: it has a massive round middle pillar with a plain capital and chamfered abacus, and a plain round mould to the base, which stands on a square sub-base. It is matched in the west respond but the east respond is a later alteration with a rather shallow semi-octagonal shaft in one stone and a crudely moulded capital and chamfered abacus, both extended to the outer order. The outer angles are stop-chamfered.

The arches are two-centred and of two chamfered orders, the inner order being small compared with the thickness (4 ft.) of the wall. There is some irregularity in the curve of the eastern arch, caused by the reconstruction of the east respond. The voussoirs are of medium size. East of the arcade, high up, is a 15th-century rood-loft doorway with a segmental-pointed arch. The roof is of the usual 15th-century type: it is



WEST HOATHLY CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, 1800
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)



WEST HOATHLY CHURCH: INTERIOR



HURSTPIERPOINT: DANNY



HURSTPIERPOINT: THE OLD CHURCH, 1802
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)

of two bays with a middle truss consisting of a moulded tie-beam and a tall octagonal king-post with a moulded capital and base. The common rafters are trussed with braces and collar-beams, the latter supported by a central purlin having longitudinal braces below it from the king-post and end walls.

The south aisle (c. 16 ft. wide) has two south windows: the eastern of two lights is a further advance in design on those in the south chapel: the lights have trefoiled ogee-heads and a quatrefoil in a two-centred head with a chamfered pointed rear-arch. The western is a single light with a trefoiled ogee head: both are of c. 1330. The south doorway between the windows has hollow-chamfered jambs and two-centred head. In it is a battened oak door with sloping back-rails, hung with a pair of strap-hinges with flowered ends: the door is nail-studded, set at the top to show the date MARCH 31 1626. Several holes in the face of the door are said to be bullet-holes. East of the doorway inside are the remains of a holy-water stoup in a pointed recess: half the basin is cut away. In the west wall, above the vestry, is a modern quatrefoil light. The walls of the chapel and aisle are of rubble. Both east and west angles have a pair of square buttresses and there is another at the west end of the chapel. The roof of the aisle is similar to that of the chapel but is modern.

The south porch is modern: it is of timber on dwarf stone walls, and has six lights in each side: many of the quarries in the glazing contain ancient pitted glass. The weather-course on the aisle wall indicates that there was a previous porch here.

The west tower (12 ft. square) is a heavy low one built of rubble partly squared. Above the bell-chamber is a plain weather-course or string-course above which are three courses of squared rough ashlar to carry the spire. At the west angles are diagonal buttresses of four stages, the lowest and tallest having a weather-course marking the first-floor level. The archway from the nave is two-centred and of two chamfered orders to the east and one to the west, the latter scored by bell ropes. The jambs have moulded base-stops. The west doorway has hollow-chamfered jambs and pointed head with a hood-mould. The west window has two trefoiled pointed lights and uncusped tracery in a square head, with a moulded label: the label and part of the head are of modern repair. The second story has, in the west wall, a trefoiled ogee-headed light, and the bell-chamber a similar small window in each wall except the eastern. East of each of the north and south windows an additional round-headed light has been inserted, probably in the 16th century, for the better emission of sound. In the east wall is a modern opening, a cross in a circle, with foiled quarters.

The octagonal spire is comparatively tall and is splayed out to the square at the base. On it is a copper ball and arrow vane.

The font is of the end of the 12th century and has a repaired square bowl of Petworth marble, on a cylindrical stem which is surrounded by four modern shafts of Purbeck marble.

There are two ancient chests. One in the south aisle is an early 'dug-out' of unusual length—8 ft.; the other in the vestry is a plain framed chest of hutch type

of the 16th or early 17th century: the lid is modern. Also in the vestry is a scrap of oak tracery from a 15th-century screen.

Three cast-iron grave-slabs are affixed to the wall in the vestry: one to Richard Infeld, died 11 September 1619, aged 51; another to his son Richard Infeld, 11 March 1624, both of Gravetye; and the third containing a brass plate to Agnes daughter of the earlier Richard and wife of Henry Faulconer, 22 September 1635.

The memorial for those who died in the War 1914–18 is a brass plate with enamelled shields of arms in mimic heraldry.

The oak communion rails are of the 18th century. In the splayed jambs of the 13th-century windows in the north and south walls of the chancel are contemporary paintings of conventional scrolled foliage. On the south window of the south aisle are cut two sundials: one on the west the ordinary 'mass-dial' with radial lines, the other on the east a 4-in. ring of small holes around a central hole.

There are five bells. The second, inscribed in black-letter 'Sancta Maria ora pro nobis', has the foundry mark of Thomas Bullisdon, of London, early 16th century; the fourth and fifth (tenor) are by Joseph Carter, 1581, and the first (treble) and third by Richard Phelps, 1712.⁴⁹

The communion plate consists of a silver cup of 1716, presented in 1728, a paten of 1860, and a flagon of uncertain date.⁵⁰

The registers date from 1645.

The church of 'Hodleghe' was given *ADVOWSON* to the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes by Ralph de Cheyney, for the soul of Ralph his father, and confirmed to them by William de Warenne between 1091 and 1098.⁵¹

In 1346 licence was given for the Prior of Lewes to assign the advowsons of West Hoathly, Ditchling, and Clayton to the Bishop of Chichester, for the foundation of a prebend.⁵² This, however, was cancelled in 1353, and the churches remained with the prior, the rectory of West Hoathly being appropriated and a vicar instituted between 1362 and 1398.⁵³

After the Dissolution the rectory and advowson were granted in 1538 to Thomas Cromwell,⁵⁴ and after his attainder to Anne of Cleves, for life, in 1541.⁵⁵ After her death in 1557 the advowson of the vicarage reverted to the Crown and has so remained⁵⁶ ever since, being now in the gift of the Lord Chancellor.

In 1550 yearly rents of 13s. 4d. payable by John Bryan and Thomas Willyard for an obit for the soul of William Bryan during the next three years⁵⁷ in the church of West Hoathly were granted to William Fountayne and Richard Mayne.⁵⁸

In 1882 the ecclesiastical parish of Highbrook was formed from West Hoathly. The church of All Saints is a vicarage in the gift of the Bishop of Chichester.

Mrs. J. M. Cohen's Recreation *CHARITIES* Ground: by a deed dated 2 May 1916, land was conveyed to the parish council upon trust to use as a recreation ground for the inhabitants, especially the children of the hamlet of

⁴⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 212; lviii, 42.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* liv, 251.

⁵¹ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), i, 17,

22, 38.

⁵² *Cal. Pat.* 1345–8, p. 41.

⁵³ *Ibid.* 1350–4, p. 380; Add. MS.

39336, fol. 213.

⁵⁴ *L. & P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384

(74).

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

⁵⁶ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.); Add. MS.

39336, fol. 214–18; Horsfield, *Sussex*, i,

263.

⁵⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxvi, 97.

⁵⁸ *Cal. Pat. Edw. VI*, ii, 383.

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Sharpthorne, and the grantor by the same deed gave £100 4½ War Stock to the council for the maintenance of the Recreation Ground. The income amounts to £4 10s. a year.

Subsequently, by indenture dated 25 Aug. 1921, additional land was conveyed to the parish council for a recreation ground or any other kindred purpose, for the benefit of the inhabitants of West Hoathly.

John Smith's Charity. Under the terms of an indenture dated 6 March 1871, this parish receives a sum representing two twenty-second parts of the net income of this charity, to be applied by the vicar and churchwardens in coats to poor inhabitants. In 1934 £10 was so distributed.

The Clockfield Charity. By a deed of grant dated 28 Jan. 1627, land at Worth known as Stone Croft or Hothly Field was conveyed to the churchwardens of West Hoathly, the rents to be applied towards the repair of the church of West Hoathly. The land was sold in 1919 under the authority of an Order of the

Charity Commissioners and the proceeds invested, producing an income of £16 15s. 6d. a year, which is paid towards Church expenses.

Stephenson Clarke, by will proved 9 June 1891, bequeathed to trustees £500 for the erection and maintenance of two stained glass windows in West Hoathly Church and directed that any balance should be distributed to the poor. By a declaration of trust dated 2 July 1892 it is recited that after the erection of the windows the trustees were possessed of a sum of £349 11s. upon trust to apply the income as directed in the will. This sum now produces £10 4s. 10d. annually and is applied to the repair of the windows and to poor widows.

Stephenson Clarke also bequeathed to the minister and churchwardens of Highbrook, West Hoathly, £2,000, the interest to be applied towards the repair of the church clock and the peal of bells and the maintenance of the churchyard. The endowment produces £63 13s. 6d. annually.

HURSTPIERPOINT

Herst (xi cent.); Herstperpunt (xiv cent.); Perpondesherst (xv cent.).

The parish has an area of 5,028 acres. In 1934 a detached portion of the parish was transferred to Bolney. The village is built on a slight ridge, 145 ft. above sea-level, running east and west across the parish, on the road from Lewes to Albourne, and this is crossed in the centre of the village by another road which goes north to Cuckfield. The church is situated in the south-west angle of the cross-roads. Southwards the ground slopes up, through Danny Park, to the lower slopes of Wolstonbury Hill, the elevation at the boundary being 225 ft. North of the village the ground dips, the centre and most of the northern portions of the parish being under 100 ft. The main road from London to Brighton forms part of the western boundary. St. John's College, a Church of England Public School, is situated to the north-east of the village. No railway line touches the parish, the nearest station being Hassocks, 1½ miles east of the village. The soil is loam, varying to clay, with a subsoil of chalk and loam and understrata of sand-stone in parts. The chief crops are oats, barley, wheat, and market-garden produce, with much pasture.

There are Baptist and Methodist chapels, and an unsectarian Mission Hall. The Isolation Hospital is situated at Godard's Green.

Sayers Common was made an ecclesiastical parish in 1881, the vicarage of Christ Church being in the gift of the rector of Hurst.

The village is chiefly one long street running east and west and most of the buildings in it are of the 18th century or later. On the north side of the street is one building of c. 1600, much restored and altered. The walls are plastered and tile-hung and the upper story towards the street is jettied, on a moulded bressummer. At the west end of the street is a house now called 'the Old Manor House' but formerly 'Trepes' or 'Treeps', of early-18th-century date, and behind, south of it, is 'Cowdray Cottage', of the 16th or 17th century with walls of timber-framing with brick or plaster infilling and a tiled roof. It has open-timbered ceilings and a wide fire-place, and its central chimney-stack is of the usual rebated type in thin bricks. About ½ mile farther

west, at the west corner of Langton Lane, is a house, now called 'Crouch Cottages' and divided into two tenements. The east half is of the 15th century and had a middle hall and two wings, which had slightly projecting upper stories on the south front. Most of the timbers of the front are now concealed by tile-hanging, but some are exposed at the back showing the curved braces of the period. Over the original west wing is a small chimney-stack of early-17th-century bricks. The western half of the building is probably a 17th-century extension. In Langton Lane and the neighbourhood are a number of 17th-century cottages, and there are several farm-houses of the same period, such as Langton Farm, Horns, Dumbrell's, and Naldrett's; and, farther east, 'Grasmere' (formerly Malt House), Kent's, the Mill House, and 'Randiddles'. Most of these have typical central chimney-stacks.

The south wing of Blackhouse Farm, north of the village, is of the 16th century or earlier, having timber-framing with curved struts, and a gabled south end jettied on shaped brackets. At Sayers Common, on the west of the main road to Brighton, 'Elvey Cottage' is of 15th-century origin, consisting of a hall, in which the usual chimney-stack and upper floor were inserted in the 16th century, and a south wing which has heavy flat ceiling-beams and some remains of its early roof.

Danny, the seat of Sir W. R. Campion, K.C.M.G., stands about 1 mile south-south-east of the parish church, in its own park. The house is of brick with stone dressings, and of E-shaped plan facing east, with later additions at the back. The front as now seen was the result of the remodelling and enlargement of the house by George Goring, whose initials with the date 1593 appear in a ceiling in the north wing. The present north wing and part of the main block adjoining it belong to an earlier 16th-century building, the plan being L-shaped and the walls, above the lowest story, being of timber-framing. Goring reconstructed or encased the upper stories with brick, inserted the bay-windows, and refronted the east end of the wing, which he probably shortened at the same time to tally with his new additions. These included the middle porch-wing and the south half of the main block, made 9 ft. longer

than the north to accommodate his great hall, of two stories in one, and the south wing. The older part was of four stories, but his new work, made the same height, has only three. The north wing retains the original newel staircase projecting north of it, but Goring's main staircase was probably on a wing at the back or west of the hall and was abolished when the new main staircase was put in the south wing in 1728, when Henry Campion and Barbara (Courthope), to whom the estate had passed in 1724, made fairly extensive alterations; the south side was then given a new façade and additions made to the west. Since then further additions have been made, chiefly to the offices on the west side, and a new main staircase has been inserted in the main block.

The house was the scene of one very important event in modern history. It is recorded on a panel in the great hall as follows:

'In this room a meeting of the Imperial War Cabinet was held on the 13th October 1918 at which the following were present:—Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. A. J. Balfour, Viscount Milner, The Earl of Reading, Mr. W. S. Churchill, Admiral Sir R. Wemyss, General Sir Henry Wilson, Lt.-Col. Sir M. P. A. Hankey, Mr. Philip Kerr. A cable was sent to President Wilson authorising him to proceed with negotiations for an Armistice with Germany.'

The east front of the main block has two bay-windows on either side of the porch, the two to the south, lighting the great hall, having four tiers of lights rising two stories in one, with three transoms. Above these are blanks to the top story. The other bays have a window to each of the three stories, divided by a transom: all are of four lights in the width and one light in each splay. The moulded jambs and mullions, &c., are of stone, and there are moulded labels. The bays have gabled heads with moulded copings the kneelers of which are carried on scrolled brackets. In the tympanum of each of the two north bays is a circular niche with a defaced bust. The rebuilt gabled heads of the two south bays have roundels with heads, bad imitations of the others. The main wall between the bays is of brick, with some early-16th-century diaper ornament in blue headers in the north block. The middle (gabled) porch-wing has a round-headed entrance flanked by half-round shafts with moulded square capitals and bases; above these are enriched pedestals to an upper order, which has fluted Ionic shafts, flanking the first-floor window, and a pediment. There are also two half-round shafts of brick in each of the side-walls of the porch, with two-light windows between them.

The inner side of the north wing has two bay-windows like the others but without the niches in the gable-heads. The inner face of the south wing also has two bay-windows, with lights taller than those of the north side. The east ends of the two wings are gabled and have bay-windows of two stories with sloping roofs, but otherwise like the others; the third story has a five-light window.

The north side has three square gabled projections of full height: the easternmost contains the original central newel stair, and the next west may have been formerly a porch-wing, although there are no traces of an entrance. These projections and the main wall between them are lighted by windows of two, three, or four lights at the original floor levels, four stories instead of the three taller stories of the other parts of the house.

Most of the windows east of the stair-wing are blocked: others have been restored, but two or three have ancient wooden frames.

The south elevation is of 1728 and is of three bays: the middle bay projects slightly and is flanked by pilasters of rubbed brick with stone capitals. It has five windows to the ground and first floors, the second and fourth of the lower being open down to the floor: the others are sash windows. The faces setting back at the east and west ends have each two windows and a flanking pilaster: beyond the western bay is the modern extension to the dining-room. The front has a panelled parapet and above it are gabled dormers to the second floor. The west side of the house has an early-18th-century gabled wing next the main south wing: the rest of this side appears to be all modern. There are many rain-water pipes and heads to the older walls bearing the initials and date $\frac{C}{HB} \frac{17}{28}$.

The east entrance opens into the screens passage, which is paved¹ with 21-inch stone and 5-inch black marble squares set diagonally: north of it is a modern oak staircase: this rises from the same level, but against the front (east) wall there are steps down to the lower ground-floor level of the north wing (3 ft. 6 in.). In the west wall of the stair-hall is a re-set 17th-century carved oak chimney-piece with an overmantel of two bays.

The great hall, south of the entrance passage, has no really ancient features. The plain ceiling is lower than the heads of the eastern bay-windows and is probably an insertion of the 18th century for the creation of another story above the hall. At the north and south ends are stone screens, each with two round-headed openings of Classic style: the stone-work appears to be modern, but probably the southern, opening to the 18th-century staircase, is contemporary with it but refaced later and copied in the north screen. The west fire-place is modern. An ancient iron fire-back has a figure of Neptune driving his sea-horses. The chimney-piece is flanked by white-painted panelling, and two doorways in the west wall have stone pediments with the monogram \mathcal{N} . The main staircase south of the hall is of 1728. It is of oak, rising in half-round winding plan: it has twisted and plain-turned balusters and ramped hand-rail starting from a spiral above the bottom newel.

The drawing-room, next east, has a modern east fire-place and is lined with painted fielded panelling, which closes the mouth of the northern bay-window. The library, the easternmost room, has some late-16th-century panelling re-set in the north bay-window. The dining-room, the westernmost room, has a modern north fire-place and other fittings. The rooms above in this wing have no noticeable features: the attics have some old chamfered roof-timbers and flush purlins.

The eastern room on the ground floor of the north wing—now a billiard-room lighted by east and south bay windows—has a 16th-century north fire-place of stone with carved tapering pilasters with enriched Ionic caps and, above them, shields now whitened but formerly coloured. Some slight tricking shows in one of them. The western room also has a west fire-place of stone with shallow sunk carving of foliage and roundels, and a moulded surround. A passage-way has been cut off the north side of this room, and off this, in the projecting north bay, is the original winding staircase, which has oak-board treads and risers up to half-way between the first and second floors, whence it is continued in a

¹ About 10 square yards of this paving now lies outside against the north side of the house.

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straight flight with steps of solid oak balks. The projection next west, possibly once an entrance-porch, is now fitted as a lavatory. The larder and passage, west of this, have two heavy chamfered ceiling-beams and large square joists which are relics of the earlier 16th-century building, and the third northern projection is open to the larder. On the first floor over the larder, &c., are other heavy beams and joists.

There are the remains here of the ornamental plaster ceilings of the late 16th century. On the first floor a corridor against the north wall next to the western bedroom has part of a ribbed pattern of squares and curves, with foliage pendants, bosses, and fleurs de lis; there are also roundels, one with a lion rampant, another with a cock, a third with a lion's mask, and one rectangular panel with the date 1593; this probably continued throughout the whole wing originally, and there is strap and jewel ornament in the soffits of the two windows of the passage. The room and passage above this part has a contemporary ribbed ceiling right across from north to south, in the form of an elliptical barrel-vault: the design is different, being a series of star-shaped and cross patterns, but the pendants and bosses are much the same except that there are sprigs of a kind of marigold flower instead of the fleurs-de-lis of the lower ceiling. In two of the panels are the initials G_{GM} . The eastern room retains the barrel-vaulted ceiling, but the pattern has been wiped out, and there is a suggestion that this part was a single long room, serving as a chapel. The ceiling of the newel staircase also has a segmental barrel-vault above an enriched entablature, and with a star pattern. In the north and south tympana of the vault are lions (rampant) and lions' masks. The small rectangular ceiling above the short straight flight, also ribbed, has five roundels, the central with a head and the words *DIVS AUGUSTUS*, the other four with an eagle displayed, a grotesque mask, a cock (and a pillar?), and a square flower pattern respectively.

The east bedroom on the first floor has an elaborate north chimney-piece of oak dated 1511 (presumably 1571). The cupboard next east of it, in a blocked window, is fitted with doors carved with processional scenes of kings and soldiers with pennons, &c., and four shields of arms: (1) two leopards; (2) a dragon's (?) head raged; (3) a lion passant; (4) three wheat-sheaves. The room also has a dado of panelling of the same period.

In the western bedroom is a contemporary carved and inlaid oak bedstead with the inscription:

WHAN THOV	RAST THINK	AL THOV
TAKES THI	ON GOD FOR	HASTE.

The room above, with the enriched ceiling, also has its walls lined with Elizabethan panelling, with raised mouldings, fluted pilasters with Ionic caps, and fluted frieze. The partition between the bedroom and the north passage does not reach the ceiling, but that between the west and east rooms is full height and shows old framing. The east room has some similar panelling in the southern bay-window, and on the north side is a recessed fire-place flanked by fluted pilasters and with a moulded cornice.

Randolph's Farm, west of Danny, was an early-15th-century house of rectangular plan, and some remains of the roof still exist over the middle part, of the usual

king-post construction. About 1550 the east and west walls were rebuilt in red brick with diaper ornament in blue-grey headers and stone mullioned windows, of which two remain in the east front, and a projecting chimney-stack was built against the west side of the former hall: this has a wide fire-place with a heavy oak bressummer. The upper floor was inserted and probably the plan was lengthened, as above the south end the roof is of the 16th century, with wind-braced purlins. The entrance on the east front has a low gabled porch of brick with a stone archway with elliptical head: the two sides of the head are incised with shields with initials J and T, and above the arch is inscribed TL 1643 ML. The gabled north end of the block is of flint; it has lozenge-shaped patterns in red brick, and two old windows with moulded oak frames and mullions; another (to the attic) has been blocked. The gabled south end is tile-hung and above it is an early-17th-century chimney-stack of the rebated type. The square chimney-shaft over the projecting fire-place has also been encased in tile-hanging. Inside are two original 15th-century doorways close together in the north wall of the former hall, opening into the former buttery: these have moulded oak posts and four-centred arches. The ceiling-beams are encased.

Tott Farm is an unusually tall timber-framed building of three stories and attics and of small L-shaped plan: it appears to be a complete structure of c. 1580-1600. The front block, of only two rooms on each floor, has a central chimney-stack with a great fire-place with an arched oak lintel, and on the front side of it are the stairs, original from the first floor upwards, but modern below. The walls are rough-cast and tile-hung, but much of the timber-framing is visible inside and all the stories have stop-chamfered ceiling-beams, and inside the third story of the back wing is a blocked original window with moulded mullions. The door at the foot of the ground-floor stairs is of oak battens and hung by a pair of original ornate foliated strap-hinges of rough local workmanship. Above two of the upper fire-places in the central chimney-stacks are long narrow cupboards, fitted with doors of late-16th-century panelling, hung with small ornamental hinges. There are also several ordinary doorways of panelling of the same period. The fire-place on the second floor, north-east side, has an ancient oak curb, and the hearth is made up of stamped or incised 4½-inch. tiles of the 16th century: they are of two patterns: one with a circular centre surrounded by four half circles, the other with a lozenge centre: each has in the centre a 'Roman' head. Their provenance is not certain, but it is thought that they were found in a local brick- and tile-works.²

In the back wall of the south-west half of the main block, on the first floor, is a blocked doorway, perhaps for an outside staircase; the door from it, of three battens, feather-edged moulded, has been re-used in the south-west side-wall of the wing: timber-framed walls in the attics retain much of the original straw plaster, with scrolled combing.

Pakyns Manor is probably of early- to mid-16th-century origin. The plan of the oldest part of the house is L-shaped, with the wings extending to the east and south, and there are 18th-century and modern additions, chiefly on the west side.³ The walls are mostly of 18th-century and later brick-work, but the tile-hanging of the

² Similar tiles were found, about 1845, at Keymer, and in digging the foundations of the new church at Hurstpierpoint: *Suss.*

Arch. Coll. xvi, 126-37.

³ On the east face of the south wing is

a stone tablet inscribed GVLIELMVS BORRER. v. 1846-1920 HANC DOMVM PERFECIT.

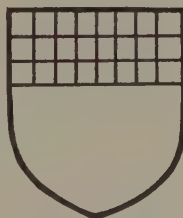
end walls may conceal original timber-framing. A small projecting square bay on the north side of the east wing appears to have been a porch, with a room over, and its north face was jettied in the gabled upper story: in it is a four-light window with moulded mullions of late-16th-century date. West of this bay is a projecting chimney-stack to the main wing, built of red brick with diaper ornament of the first half of the 16th century. West of this is a first-floor window of the same period, of three lights with hollow-chamfered oak mullions. These are the only ancient external features, except perhaps the Horsham slabs with which most of the roofs are covered. The drawing-room, occupying the east wing, has chamfered ceiling-beams. In the west wall of the south wing was a great fire-place with a chamfered cambered bressummer; the 9-in. partition between the hall and parlour now abuts the middle of it, the recess being used as cupboards. The room to the north-west of the hall is lined with early-18th-century panelling.

The manor of *HURSTPIERPOINT*⁴ *MANORS* was held before the Conquest by Earl

Godwin, when it was an estate assessed at 41 hides, of which 3½ hides in the Rape of Pevensey and 19 hides in the Rape of Bramber were detached. After the Conquest, the remaining 18½ hides were held in 1086 by Robert de Pierpoint of William de Warenne. There was a church and 3 mills.⁵ The overlordship descended with the rape until the division after the death of Beatrice, Countess of Arundel, in 1439, when the 10 fees late of Robert de Pierpoint passed to the Duke of Norfolk.⁶ Subsequently the overlordship of Hurstpierpoint came into the hands of the Lords Bergavenny, and the manor was said in 1602 to have been held of their manor of Ditchling.⁷

Robert de Petraponte had a son Godfrey,⁸ who is mentioned in 1090 and 1100,⁹ and who had a son William.¹⁰ About 1150 Hugh, Robert, and William de Pierpoint are mentioned.¹¹ Hugh was still living in 1170, and so also was Simon de Petraponte.¹² A Richard de Petraponte occurs in 1175,¹³ and Robert was living in 1185 and 1210.¹⁴ William de Pierpoint appears to have been holding the manor in 1213,¹⁵ and with his successor Simon, who is first mentioned in 1237,¹⁶ the descent becomes more certain. In 1239 William de Warenne successfully challenged Simon de Pierpoint's rights of hunting in the earl's chase in Hurst.¹⁷ Simon died soon afterwards, for the custody of his lands and heir while under age were given to Hugh de Plaiz in 1240.¹⁸ Simon de Pierpoint is recorded as holding 10 fees in Hurst in 1242-3, but the name must have been

retrospective.¹⁹ Sir Robert de Pierpoint, his successor, and possibly his brother,²⁰ fought at the battle of Lewes in 1264²¹ and was still living in 1280.²² Simon de Pierpoint, probably his son, was in possession by 1284²³ and was still holding in 1296²⁴ and 1316,²⁵ but appears to have been succeeded by his son, another Simon, about 1317. This Simon was still living in 1354.²⁶ His son John was in possession of Hurst by 1359,²⁷ but seems to have died without issue, for the manor appears to have descended through Sybil, daughter of Sir Simon de Pierpoint and wife of Sir Edmund de Ufford,²⁸ to her two grand-daughters Ela and Joan, wives respectively of Richard and William Bowett,²⁹ of whom the former died without issue, and the whole



PIERPOINT. *Azure a chief checky argent and gules.*



FIENNES, Lord Dacre. *Azure three lions or.*

manor was in the hands of Sir William Bowett by 1412.³⁰ His daughter Elizabeth married Sir Thomas Dacre and was in possession before 1448.³¹ Sir Thomas died in the lifetime of his father Lord Dacre, and his property descended to his daughter Joan wife of Sir Richard Fiennes, who became Lord Dacre in right of his wife.³² He died in 1483 and was succeeded by his grandson Thomas,³³ who in 1492 had special livery, without proof of age.³⁴ Joan, Lady Dacre, however, held the Sussex manors until her death in 1486.³⁵

Thomas, Lord Dacre died in 1533³⁶ and was succeeded by his grandson Thomas, who was hanged at Tyburn for killing a gamekeeper, in 1541.³⁷ His lands and honours were forfeit, and his son died in 1553, aged 15, in the wardship of the Crown.³⁸ Gregory, Lord Dacre, brother of the last baron, was restored in 1558 to the forfeited honours,³⁹ but in 1582 sold Hurstpierpoint, with other Sussex manors, to George Goring,⁴⁰ the builder of Danny, who died seised of it in 1602.⁴¹ His son Sir George was created Baron Goring of Hurstpierpoint in 1628 and Earl of Norwich in 1644,⁴² but he appears to have settled this manor upon his son George in 1630.⁴³ George, however, died before his father and the earldom and manor passed in

⁴ Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 50 et seq.

⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 440b. Of this land Gilbert held 3½ hides, and William 3 hides.

⁶ *Bk. of John Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv), 188.

⁷ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), cclxxi, 156. In 1428 the manor was held as ½ fee: *Feud. Aids*, v, 161.

⁸ *Cal. Doc. France*, 80.

⁹ *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.*), i, 31.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 31.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 23, 62.

¹² *Ibid.* 66, 119.

¹³ *Ibid.* 55.

¹⁴ *Ibid.* ii, 51, 52.

¹⁵ *Farrer, Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 332.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, 353.

¹⁸ *Close Rolls*, 1237-42, p. 229; *Cal. Pat.* 1232-47, p. 267.

¹⁹ *Bk. of Fees*, ii, 690.

²⁰ Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 87.

²¹ *Farrer, op. cit.* iii, 333; Robert is said to have been his brother: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 87.

²² *Lewes Chart.* ii, 33, 44.

²³ *Feud. Aids*, v, 130.

²⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 46.

²⁵ *Feud. Aids*, v, 136.

²⁶ *Farrer, loc. cit.*

²⁷ *Cal. Pat.* 1358-61, p. 176.

²⁸ *Nichols, Top. & Gen.* i, 300.

²⁹ *Ibid.* Ela presented to the rectory in 1397 and her husband in 1402: *Add. MS.* 39336, fol. 277.

³⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* x, 141; *Feud. Aids*, vi, 525.

³¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 63; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 3092.

³² *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 7-8.

³³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 2 Ric. III, (30); *G.E.C. op. cit.* 9-10.

³⁴ *Cal. Pat.* 1485-94, p. 350.

³⁵ *G.E.C. op. cit.* 8-9; cf. *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, no. 437.

³⁶ *G.E.C. op. cit.* 10.

³⁷ *Ibid.* He had married Mary daughter of George Nevill, Lord Abergavenny. Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* iv, 158-9, xi, 63-4.

³⁸ *G.E.C. loc. cit.*

³⁹ *Ibid.* He married Anne sister of Thomas, 1st Earl of Dorset, and daughter of Sir Richard Sackville. Members of this family were dealing by fine with the Sussex manors in 1563-4: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 214.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* 83, 235. The right of free-warren was here included.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* xiv, 482; xxxiii, 206.

⁴² *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (1st. ed.), vi, 101.

⁴³ *Feet of F. Suss. Mich.* 6 Chas. I.

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1663 to the second son Charles, who held them apparently until his death without issue in 1671, when all his honours became extinct.⁴⁴ Hurstpierpoint was then granted to John Shaw, with a baronetcy, by Charles II, in return for money lent to him during his exile,⁴⁵ and it descended to his son and grandson, both Sir John, in



GORING. *Argent a chevron between three rings gules.*



SHAW. *Argent a chevron between three lozenges erminees.*

1680 and 1721 respectively.⁴⁶ A fourth Sir John, son of the last, succeeded in 1739 and was followed by his son Sir John Gregory Shaw in 1779.⁴⁷ He seems, however, to have sold Hurst Manor before the end of the century to William John Campion,⁴⁸ afterwards of Danny. The latter died in 1855 and was succeeded by his son of the same name, from whom Hurstpierpoint Manor and Danny Park descended in 1869 to his son Col. William Henry Campion.⁴⁹ The present owner, Col. Sir William Robert Campion, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., J.P., succeeded his father in 1923.

In 1312 a yearly fair on the Feast of St. Laurence (Aug. 10th) was granted to John de Warenne, Earl of Surrey.⁵⁰ About 1775 the date was changed to 1 May.⁵¹ In 1835 a market for corn was still held on Tuesdays.⁵²

DANNY PARK, or the **GREAT PARK PARKS** of Hurst, dates from the early 13th century, when Simon de Pierpoint obtained a licence from William de Warenne to enclose the 'wood of Daneghithe'.⁵³ In 1343 John de Warenne renewed the licence to the Sir Simon de Pierpoint then living, giving him leave to enclose 17 furlongs of the wood and demesne from the earl's chace, and to have beasts, wild and other, at his will. This was confirmed by the Crown in 1354.⁵⁴ In 1578 there was an affray between hunters in the park and the keeper, Thomas Luxford, who was accused of fatally wounding one of them.⁵⁵ At this time, according to the survey of 1570, Danny Park was 2½ miles in circumference and 'well covered with oak timber'. It was capable of feeding 300 head of deer, and there were in it 60 antlers, 200 culls, and 40 couple-cornes. The pannage was worth £6 13s. 4d. per annum.⁵⁶ The park descended with the manor until about 1652, when George Goring, Earl of Norwich, sold it to Peter Courthope.⁵⁷ From the latter it passed in 1657 to his grandson Peter, after whose

death in 1724 it was inherited by his daughter Barbara, who in 1702 had married Henry Campion,⁵⁸ and it has descended in the Campion family ever since. Henry Campion was succeeded in 1761 by his son William, who died in 1778.⁵⁹ Henry Courthope Campion, son of the latter, was succeeded in 1811 by his son William John Campion,⁶⁰ who acquired the manor of Hurstpierpoint, and they were thus once more united.

The **LITTLE PARK** of Hurstpierpoint was part of the demesne of the manor. In a survey of 1570 it is described as being situated on the north side of the church. It was 1½ miles in circumference and contained 80 head of deer, of which 18 were antlers. The pannage was worth £5 yearly, and there was a pond of 2 acres containing 200 carp and tench.⁶¹ The park was sold with the manor to George Goring in 1582.⁶² It remained with the Gorings until about 1650,⁶³ but seems to have come into the hands of Sir William Juxon, bart., of Albourne, who in 1664 conveyed it to Anne Swayne, widow, apparently his aunt,⁶⁴ and her son Richard Swayne⁶⁵ sold it in 1670 to Thomas Marchant of Albourne.⁶⁶ It remained in the hands of the Marchant family until it was sold by the executors of John Marchant some years before 1873 to C. Smith Hannington of Brighton.⁶⁷

The manor of **PAKYNs** [Pakens (xvi cent.); Pacons (xviii cent.)] was held in the 16th century of the manor of Hurstpierpoint by service of 1/8 of a knight's fee.⁶⁸ It takes its name from a family living there from the 13th century. Walter Pakyn is mentioned in 1216, and others of the name occur, down to Roger Pakyn, who was living in 1509.⁶⁹ The property appears to have been identical with a messuage and lands in Hurstpierpoint which John Burtenshaw of Albourne in 1534 conveyed to trustees for his son John.⁷⁰ The younger John was hanged for murder in 1552,⁷¹ when the property passed to Richard Holden, who died seised of it in the following year (then first called the 'manor of Pakens'), leaving a widow Anne and three infant daughters, Mary, Agnes, and Joan.⁷² In 1569 the three daughters were each in possession of a third of the manor,⁷³ but within the next twelve months Agnes appears to have married Edward Fynes and lost her husband and acquired her sisters' shares, for in 1570 the whole manor was held by Agnes Fynes, widow.⁷⁴ Later she married John Threele and held the property with him in 1591.⁷⁵ Their son Thomas Threele had it in 1621,⁷⁶ but it afterwards reverted to John Fynes, her son by her first husband.⁷⁷ John was succeeded by his infant son John in 1629,⁷⁸ from whom



CAMPION. *Argent a chief gules with an eagle or therein.*

⁴⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 236; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (1st. ed.), vi, 101-2.

⁴⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 201.

⁴⁶ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iv, 12-13; *Recov. R. Trin.* 9 Geo. I, ro. 253.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* Hil. 22 Geo. III, ro. 55; G.E.C. *Baronetage*, loc. cit. He still held the manor in 1795: *Gamekeepers' Deputations*, Lewes.

⁴⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 67; Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 246.

⁴⁹ Add. MS. 39469, fol. 335.

⁵⁰ *Cal. Chart.* iii, 194.

⁵¹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 248.

⁵² *Ibid.*

⁵³ *Cal. Pat.* 1354-8, p. 18.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵⁵ *Acts of P.C.* 1577-8, 274.

⁵⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 166.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* xi, 67; Add. MS. 5683, fol. 112.

⁵⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 34-5.

⁵⁹ Monumental inscription.

⁶⁰ Horsfield, *Hist. of Lewes*, ii, 171.

⁶¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 165.

⁶² Feet of F. *Suss. East.* 24 Eliz.

⁶³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 236.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.*; *Comber, Suss. Gen.* (Horsham), 194.

⁶⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 164.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.* xi, 67.

⁶⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 67; xxv, 164; *Deeds Coll. B.* 56, Lewes.

⁶⁸ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 80.

⁶⁹ *Suss. County Mag.* ix, 467, citing deeds in possession of Mrs. Orlebar.

⁷⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 198.

⁷¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), xcvi, 96.

⁷² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 567.

⁷³ *Fine R.* 11 Eliz. nos. 64, 65, 68.

⁷⁴ *Recov. R. East.* 12 Eliz. ro. 951.

⁷⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 336.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.* xix, 275; *Visit. Suss.* (Harl. Soc.), 75.

⁷⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 336; xiv, 441.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

Pakyns passed in turn to his brothers Anthony, in 1632,⁷⁷ and Francis, in 1637.⁷⁹ The latter also seems to have died young, for the manor returned to the Threeles and was held in 1650 by Thomas Threele and Margaret.⁸⁰ He was succeeded by his son John before 1655,⁸¹ and by 1669 the manor had passed to Laurence Threele, who was still holding it in 1675.⁸² Before 1701 Pakyns had come into the possession of Thomas Short, M.D.,⁸³ who in 1712 conveyed it to Richard Scrase.⁸⁴ About 1733 it passed to Richard Whitpain son of Richard Scrase's daughter Mary.⁸⁵ He sold it in 1763 to Thomas Butcher,⁸⁶ after whose death in 1767⁸⁷ Pakyns was conveyed by his various heirs and trustees to Philip Soale in 1768.⁸⁸ After his death it was sold by his trustees in 1781⁸⁹ to William Borrer, from whom it passed in 1797 to his son William, at one time High Sheriff of Sussex. William Borrer, the distinguished botanist, son of the latter, inherited Pakyns in 1832 but let it to his younger brother Nathaniel. A fourth William, well known as an ornithologist, succeeded in 1872, but did not live there, and from his son the last William Borrer, who inherited in 1898, Pakyns passed in 1920 to his daughter Mrs. Orlebar, the present owner.⁹⁰



BORRER. *Azure a lion ermine holding a borer proper over all a chevron argent charged with three scutcheons azure, the middle scutcheon bearing a rose argent.*

Simon de Pierpoint was holding land in 'Godebrig' of Earl Warenne in 1239, when he remitted to the earl all rights of chase there,⁹¹ and his descendant, another Simon, held the manor of **GOLDBRIDGE** in 1331-2.⁹² It appears to have descended with Hurstpierpoint and Westmeston (q.v.),⁹³ and in 1447-8 Sir Thomas Dacre and his wife settled it upon themselves for life, with remainder to their daughter Philippa and her husband Robert Fiennes.⁹⁴ Eventually it passed to the other daughter Joan, and subsequently, with her other Sussex manors, to her grandson Thomas Lord Dacre.⁹⁵ Nothing further is heard of the manor.

William de Hautbois held land in Hurstpierpoint of Simon de Pierpoint, and his heir, his brother Robert, gave this, between 1242 and 1248, to the prior and convent of St. Pancras, Lewes, to hold as two-thirds of a knight's fee.⁹⁶ Robert de Pierpoint in about 1260 relieved them of all service for this land save scutage and suit at his court at Hurst,⁹⁷ and twenty years later it was agreed that they owed nothing but suit.⁹⁸ This land probably represents the half fee in 'Haboyes' held by the Prior of Lewes in 1428⁹⁹ and survives as the small farm called 'Abbeys'.^{99a}

The reputed manor of **LEIGH** is first mentioned in 1548, when it was in the possession of John Gerves and Elizabeth his wife.¹ About 1560 it appears to have been owned by Richard Burtenshaw.² In 1595 it was

held by Robert Broke,³ and in 1610 by John Roberts who in that year conveyed it to Thomas Avery.⁴ It apparently remained with the Avery family for more than a century, and was sold about 1725 by Nathaniel Avery to Daniel Beard and his son Nicholas.⁵ Leigh was still in that family in 1790, when Kitty Beard and Mary Cook and her husband James leased or conveyed it to George Allfrey.⁶ In 1828 Mary Catherine Cook, John Evans and his wife Caroline Beard, and Edward Thomas Allfrey conveyed the manor of Leigh to William Stanford,⁷ after which there is no further record of it.

The parish church of **HOLY TRINITY CHURCH** consists of a chancel with arcades of two bays, north chapel, south chapel (now organ chamber and vestry), nave, north and south transepts, north arcade and aisle of four bays, south arcade and aisle of five bays, and a north-west tower with an octagonal spire of stone. The base of the tower serves as a porch and there is a small porch to the north chapel. The nave has a clearstory. The church was completely rebuilt from the designs of Sir Charles Barry in 1843-5, in 1854 the north chapel was added, and in 1874 the south chapel; the last has a dated foundation-stone in the east wall. The north transept has been fitted up as a chapel in memory of those who died in the War of 1914-18. The church which it replaced consisted of a chancel with a south chapel (the Danny chapel) of approximately equal dimensions, a nave with south aisle and north porch, and a west tower with a shingled spire. It had been almost rebuilt by a rector, John Urry, about 1420,^{7a} but the tracery of the windows and most other ancient features had vanished under 'churchwarden improvements' before 1835.⁸

A number of funeral monuments and fittings were preserved from the old church. The font is probably of c. 1200, but the heavy round bowl has been reworked and painted; the stem is plain; the base has a late-12th- or early-13th-century mould. Near by, a broken mortar, brought from a local farmyard, has been set on a stem and base as if to represent a font. The enclosure around the font has turned balusters and moulded handrail of the 18th century and may have been the former communion rails.

In the north chapel is a high-backed chair with elbows; the back is carved with a scroll and foliage device and the initials and date T S 1721. In the chancel are two other chairs probably of slightly earlier date. At the west end of the church is a 17th-century chest with panelled front, ends, and lid, and three locks; also a small 18th-century table with slender turned legs.

In the east window of the south chapel are set fifteen medallions of German or Flemish glass of the 16th and 17th centuries; five are circular, the others oval; they mostly depict scenes from the Old and New Testaments and include a Nativity, and the placing of our Lord in the sepulchre. There are also four similar oval

⁷⁹ Ibid. 442-3. ⁸⁰ Ibid. xix, 275.

⁸¹ Ibid. 276.

⁸² Ibid.; Add. MS. 39381, fol. 162.

⁸³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 276.

⁸⁴ Ibid. xx, 336; cf. Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Lewes), 241-2.

⁸⁵ *Suss. County Mag.* ix, 468; Add. MS. 5684, fol. 80; Add. MS. 39500, fol. 4.

⁸⁶ Ibid.

⁸⁷ *Suss. County Mag.* ix, 468; Add. MS. 5684, fol. 80.

⁸⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 336.

⁸⁹ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 80.

⁹⁰ *Suss. County Mag.* ix, 468.

⁹¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, 353.

⁹² Ibid. xxiii, 1779, 1784. Godebrig (xiii cent.); Goldebrigge (xiv and xv cent.).

⁹³ In *Streat Hundred*.

⁹⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 3092.

⁹⁵ Ibid. xiv, 437.

⁹⁶ *Lewes Chart.* ii, 31-2. William's widow Helewise held dower in this land.

⁹⁷ Ibid. 32.

⁹⁸ Ibid. 32-3.

⁹⁹ *Feud. Aids*, v, 161.

^{99a} *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 51 and note.

¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 267.

² *Local Hist.* (1837), p. 24. 'Lye'.

³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 267.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 205.

⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 268.

⁷ Ibid.

^{7a} *Cal. Pap. L.* vii, 219.

⁸ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 246; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 76-7; *Gent. Mag.* 1806 (2), 897-900. The dedication of the old church was St. Laurence: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xliii, 22.

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cartouches in the west window of the tower-porch, all collected and placed here by Canon Borrer in 1845.

In the south chapel is a much weathered recumbent effigy, 6 ft. 8 in. long, of a cross-legged knight in chain armour, of c. 1260; he bears his heater-shaped shield on his left arm and his right hand grasps the hilt of his sword. The feet rest against a lion.

At the west end of the north aisle is a much mutilated effigy of a knight of c. 1340 wearing a bascinet, mail gorget, close-fitting gypon with scalloped lower edge, a baudrick, and plate armour with knee-caps to the legs. The head rests on his helm, which has a lion crest; the feet also rest against a recumbent lion. The figure now rests on an altar-tomb against the north wall; the exposed south side has four quatrefoil panels each enclosing a plain shield, and the east end a single panel. The tomb is enclosed by an iron railing, 4 ft. 10 in. high, which has three diagonal standards treated with buttresses and with moulded and embattled caps and spikes for candles; these are of early-16th-century date.

In the churchyard by the west wall are five tapering coffin-lids of the 12th or 13th century with hollow-chamfered edges. One shows faint traces of a raised cross.

Relaid in the pavement outside the west doorway are about 150 inlaid slip tiles, 6 in. square; of two patterns, one has a fish in a vesica piscis, four of the tiles forming a complete circular design, the other has a whorl of foliage forming part, probably, of a border pattern: late-13th or early-14th century, they are suffering from wear in their present position.

There are eight bells, of which three date from 1775, and the others from 1846.⁹

The communion plate includes a cup of 1720 inscribed 'De novo conflatum et auctum sumptibus Petri Courthoupe arm.'; a silver-gilt chalice of Spanish workmanship, probably 17th-century, given by Canon Borrer in 1887; a paten of 1716 given by Arthur Hamilton Gordon in 1846; one of 1722; a third of 1775 inscribed 'S.A.B. died 30th Jan. 1887', and another with maker's mark only; a flagon of 1725, 'the gift of John Ovenden'; a salver on three feet, of 1732, inscribed 'CH & E 17 Aug. 1837'; an alms-dish of 1774, the gift of Mary and Ann Beard, 1775; a copy of it of 1846 given by C. H. Borrer, 1846; and three spoons, one foreign.¹⁰

The registers date from 1558.

The advowson of Hurstpierpoint Rectory was held by Simon de Pierpoint in 1331¹¹ and descended with the manor until the latter half of the 18th century.¹² In 1778 it was bequeathed by Sir John Shaw (but apparently with reversion to his son John Gregory Shaw) to Sir Edward Winnington, bart., who presented in 1784,¹³ and from whom it passed to his grandson Sir Thomas Edward Winnington, who presented in 1807.¹⁴ Later it evidently reverted to the Shaw

family, and the Rev. Robert Shaw was said to be the patron in 1835.¹⁵ About this time the advowson was acquired by Nathaniel Borrer of Pakyns, who presented with others in 1841,¹⁶ and from him it descended in 1863 to his son the Rev. Carey Hampton Borrer, who died in 1898.¹⁷ It was afterwards held by his trustees,¹⁸ and later bought by Colonel W. H. Campion.¹⁹ It is now the property of Col. Sir William Robert Campion, lord of the manor.

St. George's chapel-of-ease was privately built in 1832, and was bequeathed in 1881 by Charles Smith Hannington, J.P., to his son James. In 1892 it was put into thorough repair and conveyed by Mr. S. Hannington to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. It was consecrated for Church of England services in September of that year.²⁰

William Hamper, by will dated 26 June 1829, gave to the parish £100, the interest to be distributed annually at the discretion of the rector and churchwardens to deserving aged poor widows, inhabitants of the parish. The endowment now produces £5 annually.

By a declaration of trust dated 19 March 1923, Jessie Christie gave £20 Consols, the interest to be applied towards the maintenance of the Hurstpierpoint Cemetery; the interest amounts to 10s. a year.

Dr. Avery Roberts, by will proved 9 Jan. 1862, bequeathed to the churchwardens £100 for the benefit of the poor of the parish. The endowment produces £2 13s. annually, which is distributed to the aged poor.

Henry Smith's Charity. This parish receives through the trustees of Henry Smith's Charity its proportion of the rent of an estate at Tolleshunt D'Arcy in the county of Essex for distribution by the churchwardens to distressed parishioners. In 1935 a sum of £5 8s. was received and distributed in coals to the poor.

Samuel Hannington's Charity for the poor. By a declaration of trust dated 5 Nov. 1875, it was declared that £106 4s. 6d. 3 per cent. annuities should be held by trustees in trust, the dividends thereon to be distributed equally among seven necessitous and deserving parishioners. The income amounts to £2 13s.

By a deed poll dated 29 Nov. 1894, a sum of £200 2½ per cent. Consolidated Stock was transferred by Samuel Hannington into the names of certain trustees, the dividends to be applied towards the income of the incumbent of St. George's chapel-of-ease at Hurstpierpoint. By an indenture dated 3 Jan. 1899 a further sum was transferred to the said trustees in augmentation of the existing fund. The endowment now provides £23 os. 8d. annually in dividends which are paid to the Curate Fund.

By his will proved 16 March 1926, Samuel Hannington gave £300 to the trustees of the Bishop of Chichester's Fund in aid of the endowment fund of St. George's Church at Hurstpierpoint. The dividends thereon amount to £13 12s. 6d.

⁹ For the verses and other inscriptions on these, see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 214.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* liv, 239-41.

¹¹ Feet of F. Suss. East. 5 Edw. III.

¹² Add. MS. 39336, fol. 275-80; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 235; *Recov. R. Hil.* 11 Jas. I, ro. 79; *ibid.* Trin. 9 Geo. II, ro. 253.

¹³ Add. MS. 39336, fol. 281.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 76; *G.E.C. Complete Baronetage*, v, 101. Sir John Gregory Shaw was said to be patron in 1805: *Gent. Mag.* 1805 (2), 1112.

¹⁵ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 246.

¹⁶ Add. MS. 39336, fol. 281.

¹⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 82. Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Horsham)*, 24.

¹⁸ *Chich. Dioc. Cal.*

¹⁹ *Clergy List.*

²⁰ Add. MS. 39336, fol. 284.

BUTTINGHILL HUNDRED

KEYMER

Chemere, Kimera, Kiemera (xi cent.); Kymere, Kymer (xiv cent.).

The parish has an area of 1,464 acres.¹ The main part of the parish has an elevation of little over 100 ft., but it rises in the south, extending in a long, narrow strip up the side of the South Downs to a height of over 700 ft. and continuing for a short distance beyond the crest of the hill. The village is in the centre of the parish, where the road from Lewes to Hurstpierpoint crosses that from Burgess Hill to Lodge Farm. The church is to the north-east of the cross-roads. Few of the houses are ancient. A timber-framed cottage, now called 'Old Thatch', may be of the 16th century; the Greyhound Inn has a few old ceiling-beams and a wide fire-place bearing the date 1595; and 'The Old Manor House' is probably of the early 17th century. Around the railway station of Hassocks, on the line from London to Brighton, much building development is taking place.

Ockley Manor, an early-18th-century house of red brick with rusticated stone angle-dressings, and possessing a contemporary brick dovecote, is on the east side of the road running from the village to Burgess Hill; and on the hill above it stands Oldland Mill,² an 18th-century structure, recently restored and now the property of the Sussex Archaeological Trust.

In 1894 the portion of the civil parish within the Urban District of Burgess Hill was constituted a civil parish called Keymer Urban. In 1934 a detached portion of the parish was transferred to Cuckfield Rural.

A Congregational Church was built at Hassocks in 1885.

The soil of the parish is loam and sand, except the downland, which is chalk, and the subsoil is sand and clay. The principal crops are wheat, oats, barley, peas, and turnips.

BURGESS HILL³ became the separate ecclesiastical parish of St. John's Common, with the church of St. John the Evangelist, a red-brick building in the style of the 13th century, by T. Talbot Bury, in 1863, but was not made a civil parish until 1933. The Urban District, formed in 1879, now has an area of 2,013 acres, and comprises the northern portions of the parishes of Clayton and Keymer. In 1934 parts of Clayton, Ditchling, and Wivelsfield were added. St. Andrew's ecclesiastical parish was formed in 1902 from portions of St. John's Common and Ditchling. The church, consisting of a nave and transepts in red brick with stone dressings, was consecrated in 1908, and was extended eastwards in 1924 by the addition of a sanctuary, to the memory of men of the parish who died in the war of 1914-18. St. Alban's Mission Room, Fairfield Road, was built in 1885 and enlarged in 1907. There are Congregational, Plymouth Brethren, and

Baptist chapels in the town, and the Roman Catholic church of St. Wilfred in Grove Road.

The road from Keymer runs north through the town, and a main road from Brighton to Redhill parallel to it at a distance of about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile; and the town lies along these two roads and those connecting them. The church of St. John is midway between the two, with a Recreation Ground west of it. The railway station, on the Brighton line, is a little west of the Keymer road, and south of the town a road runs east to Ditchling Common. There are brick and tile works between the station and the London Road.

The manor of **KEYMER**, assessed for **MANORS** 14 hides, was held of King Edward the

Confessor by Azor, and in 1086 of William de Warenne by William de Watevile.⁴ It was probably held shortly afterwards by Ralph de Chesney, who succeeded William de Watevile in many of his lands, and who gave the church of Keymer to Lewes Priory.⁵ Subsequently it was retained as a demesne manor by the Warennes, although the first reference to it as such occurs in 1316. It descended with the barony, falling to the share of Edmund Lenthall,⁶ and by 1566 half was held by Lord Bergavenny, a quarter by the Duke of Norfolk, one eighth by the Earl of Derby, and the remaining eighth by George Goring of Ovingdean, successor of the Wingfields.⁷

The Bergavenny moiety of Keymer descended with the half of the barony until 1627,⁸ when it formed part of the lands set aside for the jointure of Frances, wife of Sir Thomas Nevill, heir apparent of Henry, Lord Bergavenny, and to pay their debts and provide for their younger children.⁹ Sir Thomas died in 1628,¹⁰ and in the following year the moiety was sold by Lord Bergavenny and trustees to Sir Richard Michelborne,¹¹ who had already acquired the Norfolk quarter from Thomas, Earl of Arundel, and his brothers in 1610.¹² The Derby eighth had been sold to George Goring in 1575, and was acquired from his son's trustees in 1618-19 by Sir Richard,¹³ who thus became possessed of seven-eighths of the manor. Sir Richard died in 1638,¹⁴ and in 1652 his sons William, Abraham, and Francis conveyed the property to Robert Bowyer,¹⁵ who immediately parted with it to Bray Chowne.¹⁶ In 1655, however, it was acquired from him by John Anstey, clerk, who also obtained a release from William Michelborne.¹⁷ From John Anstey it passed to his son Isaac, who settled it on his wife Sarah in 1672, but it eventually passed to his sister Aphorah, the wife of Thomas Battishill.¹⁸ In 1677 Aphorah and Thomas sold it to Thomas Northmore.¹⁹

The remaining eighth of the manor, originally belonging to the Wingfields, passed from the Gorings of Ovingdean to the Bellinghams,²⁰ and was sold by

¹ *Year Bk.* 1935-6.

² *Suss. N. & Q.* iii, 197-201.

³ Burgesshill is mentioned in 1524; and in 1605 Thomas Aderton, gentleman, forfeited 1½ yardlands called Hatters alias Burgesshill for the murder of his wife: Egerton MS. 1967, fols. 35, 36.

⁴ *P.C.H. Suss.* i, 441.

⁵ *Ibid.* note; *Lewes Chart.* i, 17, 21.

⁶ *Cal. Pat.* 1313-17, p. 483; *Cat. Anc. Deeds*, A. 5917.

⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 40; and see above under Rape.

⁸ *Stat. Realm (Rec. Com.)*, v, 52.

⁹ 'The Manor of Keymer', *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 14.

¹⁰ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), i, 37, 41.

¹¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 14-15; Add. MS. 5683, fol. 199.

¹² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 251. This part of the manor had been granted to Sir Richard Sackville in 1553 after the attainder of Thos. D. of Norfolk: *Cal. Pat.* 1553, pp. 297, 115.

¹³ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 16.

¹⁴ Cf. *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 729.

¹⁵ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 263-4; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 251; Egerton MS. 1967, fol. 35.

¹⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 18.

¹⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 252.

¹⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 18.

¹⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 252; *Cal. Newn. Doc. Lewes*, ii, 20.

²⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 482; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), cclxxxii, 28; see under Rape.

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Edward Bellingham in 1620 to George Luxford²¹ of Ockley. The latter died in 1631, leaving the property to his second son Richard, who died in 1653, and his son George conveyed the portion to John Attree in 1655.²² John died in 1665,²³ in debt, and his son and heir Edmund was sued in 1666 by John Luxford, son of the elder George, who was permitted to distrain upon the $\frac{1}{2}$ manor for the money owing to him.²⁴ In 1674 Edmund Attree granted the $\frac{1}{2}$ manor outright to Edward Luxford, heir and executor of John,²⁵ and in 1682 he conveyed it to Thomas Northmore,²⁶ who thus became possessed of the whole manor. At his death in 1713 Keymer passed to his nephew William Northmore,²⁷ who sold it in 1720 to Abraham Addams.²⁸ Thomas Addams, 'Doctor of Physick', succeeded his father in 1740, and died in 1785,²⁹ and his son Abraham Gray Addams sold the manor in 1788 to Thomas and James Cooke of Southwark.³⁰ Of these brothers James died in 1813 and Thomas in 1817, when his property passed to James's daughter Elizabeth Ward Cooke, who in 1818 married Henry Nailand.³¹ As the affairs of the Cooke family had become much involved, the manor was, in 1824, vested in John Nailand and Charles Lee in trust for sale, and in 1826 was bought by the Rev. Henry Bayntun.³² From Henry Bayntun it passed to Somers Clarke,³³ who acquired one moiety in 1853 and the rest in 1862.³⁴ On his death in 1892 his son, Somers Clarke, became lord of the manor. He died in 1926 and bequeathed the manor to his nephew, the late Colonel C. Somers-Clarke,³⁵ on whose death in July 1936 his widow, Mrs. M. C. Somers-Clarke, became lady of the manor.³⁶

Of the two mills mentioned in 1086, one was still remaining, on Valebridge Common, in 1835, and the other is said to have been near the source of a spring issuing from the Downs, but to have disappeared many years before.³⁷

The custom of Borough English obtained in the manor.³⁸ The manorial courts were held at Brookland, a farmhouse on Valebridge Common.³⁹

The manor of *OCKLEY* [Okle, Occle (xiv–xv cent.); Occlaye (xvi cent.)] was held as half a knight's fee of the barony of Lewes.⁴⁰ The overlordship descended with the rape. It formed part of Edmund Lenthall's share of the barony⁴¹ and was assigned to his widow in dower.⁴² After her death the $\frac{1}{2}$ fee followed the descent of the rest of the Lenthall inheritance and ultimately that of Keymer.⁴³

The earliest-known tenant is Nicholas de Nugun or Nogon, who held the half fee in 1242.⁴⁴ By the last quarter of the 13th century it had evidently come into the hands of a family taking their name from it, for

Walter de Okeley or Ocle had lands in Keymer in 1279 and 1283,⁴⁵ and his widow Isabel was still living in 1319.⁴⁶ Their son Thomas de Ocle succeeded,⁴⁷ and was living in 1324, when he was holding a water-mill in Keymer of Aymer de Valence, of the manor of East Sutton in Kent.⁴⁸ Ockley seems to have remained in the same family until early in the 15th century, John Ockley holding a court there in 1404.⁴⁹ It is then lost sight of until the following century. In 1513 John Awood⁵⁰ of Clayton purchased from Thomas Hardys or Hardes an estate of 130 acres in Keymer which was perhaps part of Ockley, for his son Thomas Awood or Thurstan, who inherited in 1528, died in 1539 holding a messuage and 293 acres in Keymer and Cuckfield, of the Barony of Lewes, for half a fee and three arrows yearly, which identifies it with Ockley.⁵¹ His son Sir John died in 1559 leaving the manor to his son Nicholas, whose son John succeeded in 1582 but was obliged to sell Ockley⁵² in 1602 to Stephen Barnham and Alice, presumably his mother.⁵³ Stephen died seised of it in 1608,⁵⁴ and his son Martin sold it in 1615 to George Luxford.⁵⁵ John Luxford, eldest son of George, succeeded his father in 1631⁵⁶ and died in 1673,⁵⁷ and his son Edward sold the manor in 1718 to James Wood of East Masealls.⁵⁸ James died in 1759, and his son John, rector of Rusper, at his death in 1791 left Ockley to his cousin James Wood of Hickstead.⁵⁹ From the latter it passed in 1806 to his second son John, who died in 1818 leaving Ockley to his son James, who lived until 1897.⁶⁰ At the death of his widow in 1910 it passed to their great-nephew Mr. Randall George Davidson, the present owner.

The parish church of *SS. COSMAS CHURCH AND DAMIAN* has an apsidal chancel, with flint walls, of the 12th century, but the remainder of the structure was rebuilt in 1866 from the designs of Edmund Scott. The church consists of a chancel, nave, north and south aisles, south porch, and west tower with a small spire above it. The east window of the chancel has ancient angle-dressings to the inner splays and a chamfered segmental rear-arch with old voussiors, but otherwise all the stone dressings have been renewed.

All the fittings are modern, but possibly a piscina(?) in the south-east of the apse is ancient. It is all plastered and has a chamfered two-centred head: there is no basin.

There are six bells, one of 1791, one of 1866, and four of 1911.

The communion plate consists of a cup of 1635; two patens of 1838; a flagon of 1752, given in that year by Elizabeth White; and a silver alms-dish of 1861, given in 1866.⁶¹

²¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 19; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 251.

²² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 20; *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 165–7.

²³ *Ibid.* (*Ardingly*), 13.

²⁴ *Recov. R. Hil.* 19–20 *Chas. II.*, ro. 58.

²⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 20–1.

²⁶ *Ibid.* 21.

²⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 252.

²⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 21; *Cal. Deeds N. Lewes*, 107.

³⁰ *Ibid.* 132; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 22.

³¹ *Ibid.* 23.

³² *Ibid.*; *Cal. Deeds N. Lewes*, 134–5.

³³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 24.

³⁴ *Ex. inf.* Robert A. Dendy, esq.

³⁵ *Cf. Suss. N. & Q.* iii, 98.

³⁶ *E. inf.* Robert A. Dendy, esq.

³⁷ *Horsfield, Sussex*, i, 242.

³⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 180.

³⁹ *Horsfield, Sussex*, i, 242.

⁴⁰ Wood MSS., Hove Public Library; *Bk. of Fees*, 691 (where the name is missing); *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 33, 192, 196. It is said to have been held of Keymer by payment of 3 barbed arrows, in 1555: *ibid.* 33. In 1559 it was said to be held of the manor of Ditchling: *ibid.* 41. *Ibid.* 187.

⁴² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* i Ric. III, no. 43; *cf. Cal. Inq. (Rec. Com.)*, iv, 417. It is here entered as 1 fee.

⁴³ *Cf. Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 25.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* xxxiv, 192, 187; *Bk. of Fees*, 691.

⁴⁵ *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.*), ii, 44 and 63; *Assize R.* 1260 m. 2. Richard de Okle is mentioned in 1288 and Adam in 1310: *Lewes Chart.* ii, 44, 62.

⁴⁶ *Cat. Anc. Deeds*, C. 3490.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* C. 3489.

⁴⁸ *Feud. Aids*, v, 137; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 17 Edw. II, no. 75.

⁴⁹ *Add. MS.* 5684, fol. 37.

⁵⁰ *Cf. Comber, Suss. Gen. (Horsham)*, 372.

⁵¹ Wood MSS. Hove Public Library; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), lxxi, 142; *cf. Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 33.

⁵² Wood MSS.

⁵³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 327; *Add. MS.* 39381, fol. 88.

⁵⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 86.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* xx, 327; *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 165.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.* 167; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 680.

⁵⁷ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 167;

Cal. Deeds N. Lewes, 2. ⁵⁸ Wood MSS.

⁵⁹ *Cal. Deeds N.* 43, *Lewes*.

⁶⁰ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Horsham)*, 381.

⁶¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 238.



KEYMER CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, *c.* 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



SLAUGHAM PLACE: THE NORTHERN ARCADE



SLAUGHAM CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, 1805
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)



SLAUGHAM CHURCH: INTERIOR

The registers date from 1601.

The church of Keymer is mentioned *ADVOWSONS* in 1086,⁶² and was granted to the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes by Ralph de Chesney about 1093.⁶³ The rectory has always been attached to that of Clayton (q.v.), the advowson now being held by Brasenose College, Oxford.

The church of St. John the Evangelist, Burgess Hill, is a vicarage in the gift of the rector of Clayton *cum*

Keymer. The church of St. Andrew, Burgess Hill, is a vicarage in the gift of the Bishop of Chichester and the representatives of S. Copestake.

Parish Clerk's Land. By a deed dated *CHARITY* 4 April 1804 land at Keymer, commonly called the Clerk's Field, containing about 2 acres, was conveyed to trustees for the benefit of the parish clerk. The land is now let on a lease for 21 years at an annual rent of £5, which is applied in payment of the parish clerk's salary.

SLAUGHAM

Slacham (xi cent.); Slagham (xiv cent.).

This is a long, narrow parish running up the western boundary of the rape to a point on the main road from Brighton to London just south of New Town and Crawley, and has a projection eastwards taking in Highbeeches Forest, bounded on the north by Stanford Brook. In the south the parish becomes broader, and the hamlet of Warninglid is situated there, at the crossing of the road from Cuckfield to Lower Beeding, and a smaller one running north to Slaugham Common and Handcross. The elevation of the parish there is 369 ft. Northward of Warninglid it dips to a lake near the ruins of Slaugham Place, and rises again to the village, at 200 ft., which lies along the road coming west from Staplefield. From this road several others lead north to Handcross on the eastern edge of the parish. The church is in the centre of the village, on the south side of the road. Slaugham Common lies west of the village. In the south-western corner of the parish are woods with several hammer-ponds.

North of the village the ground rises to the Forest ridge, reaching a height of 504 ft. at Handcross and the main road from Brighton to London runs up the eastern boundary north of this part. At Pease Pottage a road branches off west to Horsham, and further north the ground slopes down again to about 270 ft.

The area of the parish is 5,482 acres, and it is divided into four districts: Handcross, Pease Pottage, Warninglid, and Slaugham. Church Mission Rooms are situated in the three first. There are Baptist and Methodist chapels at Handcross.

The soil is sand and clay, and the subsoil clay, gravel, and sand. The chief crops are oats, mangold-wurzels, and wheat.

The village is a small one, with a small triangle north of the church, and a short street running north from it. The Chequers Inn has some slight signs of age, but is now mostly modern. The cottage next south is probably of the 17th century: it is stone-fronted, and has a tiled roof with a central chimney-stack of thin bricks. A house, north of the triangle, is of the 17th century; the walls are of brick, with tile-hanging to the upper story, and the roof is tiled: above it is a central chimney-stack of thin bricks. Inside some framing shows, and there is a wide fire-place. Another house behind it, to the north-east, of L-shaped plan, has a heavy projecting chimney-stack of stone of late-16th-century date: it has three shafts of thin bricks, the middle diagonal, the outer two square, with moulded bases.

Bosworth House, east of the triangle, is of 15th-century origin. The original part is rectangular, facing south. A wing was added to the north late in the 16th century, making the plan L-shaped. The hall appears

to have been of two bays, and had a solar or buttery wing east of it: if there was a west wing it has been destroyed. A part of the 15th-century roof remains in place at the east end of the hall, with a strutted king-post and braced central purlin below the collar-beams. Much of the roof, including the middle truss, was altered when a heavy chimney-stack was built in, in the east bay of the hall, in the 16th century. Some of the smoke-blackened common rafters are left in place: they are 9 in. by 5 in., laid flatwise. There are also original wide flat joists in the lower ceiling of the east wing. The room on the site of the west bay of the hall has the timbers exposed inside, including the story-posts of the former middle truss, and a ceiling-beam between the two posts: the ceiling has wide flat joists. The fire-place is a very large one with corner seats. The staircase is next north of the chimney-stack. When the late-16th-century wing was added another great chimney-stack was inserted, intruding on the original east wing: this has wide stone fire-places back to back, and a rebated shaft above. The 16th-century wing has open-timbered ceilings, with heavy chamfered beams: it has projecting windows with moulded mullions and transoms in the gabled north end. This gabled wall shows the framing externally, but elsewhere it is mostly replaced by brick or tile-hanging.

Naylands, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile west of the village, on the south side of the road, is a house of c. 1600 with a timber-framed north front and a tiled roof with a rebated central chimney-stack.

Denman's Farm, nearly a mile west-south-west of the church, is a 17th-century house showing square framing in the upper story of the north-west front: the roof is covered with Horsham slabs and has a plain central chimney-stack.

Bell's Farm, about 150 yards farther west (apparently once called Hampshire Farm) is an early-15th-century house retaining much of the original structure. It had a hall-place of two bays, 12 ft. and 10 ft., with an east solar and west buttery wing. A floor was inserted in the usual manner in the hall and a chimney-stack built in at the east end of the hall c. 1600. The east solar wing was destroyed, apparently late in the 17th century. The chimney-stack had two wide stone fire-places back to back: that to the east wing now shows externally and is blocked. The refacing of the wall next south of the stack is of late-17th-century brick. The wall next north of the stack retains an original four-centred oak doorway—now also blocked with 18th-century bricks—and inside, the same wall, on either side of the stack, has the original moulded wall-beam of the hall, of a rather more elaborate moulding than the later 15th-century beams. In the upper story

⁶² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 441.

⁶³ *Lewes Chart*, i, 17, 40.

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is the tie-beam—hollow-chamfered—of the middle roof-truss, but it has been cut through in the middle and fitted with later framing for head room, the king-post, &c., being destroyed. But the closed west wall of the hall has original framing, with curved braces below both the lower plain wall-beam and upper tie-beam; above the latter is a strutted king-post. In the same wall, on the ground floor, is another original four-centred doorway, one of a pair close together, that opened into the two rooms of the buttery. The southern of these rooms has a heavy ceiling-beam and exposed joists. The roof-rafters are of heavy scantlings, 8 in. by 5 in., set flatwise. The later ceiling-beams and joists in the inserted 16th-century floor on the hall-site are stop-chamfered. The north front has much of the original framing, with curved braces in the upper story. The old entrance to the hall-screens is replaced by a modern one, but a row of peg-holes in the lintel shows that it had an arched head. The other walls are weather-boarded. The roof is covered with Horsham slabs and has at the east end a rebated chimney-shaft of thin bricks. A barn of three bays has some early medieval framing with curved braces reaching from floor to tie-beams in the end walls: the roof is modern and covered with tiles.

The ruins of Slaugham Place, built by John Thorpe¹ for Sir Walter Covert in the time of James I, are much as described in 1858 by W. H. Blaauw,² but inevitable decay has advanced a little more since his description was published. The remains indicate a complete courtyard plan about 80 ft. square, surrounded by ranges some 25 to 30 ft. wide, and with the kitchen and offices to the south-west. The great hall was in the west range, the principal entrance with an arcade of five bays was on the north side, and a secondary entrance with a smaller arcade on the east. There was a large outer area of gardens and courts, with boundary walls that had turrets at the angles and a gateway to the east opposite the east arcade. Part of a moat filled with water remains to the south of the house and garden.

The chief survivals are the arcades, and the lower parts of the walls of the west range, and kitchen and offices north of it. The remainder is little more than foundations. The most conspicuous feature is the arcade of the outer side of the north range. Three semi-circular arches are complete, and parts remain of the others: they have coffered soffits with pyramidal pendants. The piers, 4 ft. broad, have attached fluted pilasters on the north face with Doric capitals and bases on tall enriched pedestals. The piers of the middle bay are deeper than the others, so that the bay projects, and in the reveals are shell-headed niches. Above the arches was an entablature of which the architrave and parts of the frieze are left in place. In the spandrels of the arches, and also along the frieze, are many shields of arms, all with the Covert arms impaling or impaled by other coats. Those in the frieze alternate with roses and stag's-head skeletons. The three arches that stand on the inner face of the (former) east range have round heads with coffered soffits and plain imposts. Of the west side of the courtyard, the hall doorway exists, in a projecting bay: it has rusticated half-round shafts on pedestals and a round head with a moulded archivolt; above it is a stone entablature.

North of it are mullioned windows of two, two, and three lights, the last being in another projecting bay. South of the doorway is a three-light window to a small chamber south of the hall, and next south is another projecting bay, which retains one light of a very tall window, and below it a complete three-light window to a basement. In the wall between the two small chambers lighted by the latter windows is a gap indicating a former archway. The kitchens were south of these and extending westwards. There are remains of three fire-places in the south wall. The westernmost is 13½ ft. wide and 4½ ft. deep and has a four-centred brick arch, and some of the flue above. Next west is one moulded jamb of a tall window that pierced the west wall of the kitchen. The similar fire-place next east is 8 ft. 3 in. wide, and there is a gap for an oven between the two fire-places. The third and easternmost fire-place was that of the 'pastry': it is like the other, but only 7 ft. 2 in. wide, and has a domed oven at the back of it. Above it is a gap indicating another fire-place to an upper story. The chambers north of the kitchen and other walls are shown by low walls only. The south wall, which forms the north side of the moat, is of ashlar. There is the bottom of a three-light window at the south end of the east range. At the angle of the wall with the east garden-wall is a three-quarter octagon of brick with stone dressings. In it is a three-centred south doorway of brick, and small lights: a stone doorway with a three-centred head opens, in the north-west side, to the garden. Another turret exists farther north, and between the two, central with the house, is a gateway with rusticated stone pillars and iron gates with an ornamental 'overthrow'. The wall extends northward up to a square turret or summer-house, and there is another at the south-west angle beyond the kitchen.

The village of Warninglid consists of a single street. A few of the buildings are ancient. A row of cottages on the west includes one with 17th-century timber-framing in the upper story and a rebated chimney-shaft above the tiled roof. Another farther south has walls of stone and timber-framing, and a tiled roof with a plain late-17th-century chimney-shaft. At the south end of the east side is a house and shop (Post Office) with lower walls of brick and stone, and tile-hanging above, and a Horsham-slab roof with an early-17th-century central chimney-shaft of thin bricks and of cross-shaped plan.

The village of Handcross is a long street forming a part of the present main Brighton road. Most of the buildings are modern, but at the south end of the west side is the Red Lion Hotel, dating probably from 1550, or possibly earlier. The building has been much renovated, but ancient open-timbered ceilings and wall-framing are visible inside; there are no visible remains of the roof-construction. A business office on the ground floor is lined with reset panelling, some of it Elizabethan with L-shaped panels of raised mouldings, other of the typical early-17th-century panelling. The external elevations are of brick and tile-hanging, and there is a gabled wing on the east front repeated at the back. The original entrance doorway remains in place with moulded posts and lintel. A low cottage adjoining the north side has been absorbed by the inn and its upper floors removed to make an open saloon: it has two roof-trusses with straight braces under the tie-beams.

¹ Three alternative plans exist among Thorpe's papers in the Soane Museum; that most nearly corresponding to the ruins is reproduced in Gotch, *Arch. of the*

Renaissance in England, ii, 35; another variant is given in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlvii, opp. p. 128.

² *Ibid.* x, 160-5, where a detail drawing

is given of the magnificent carved main staircase, removed to the Star Inn (now the Town Hall), Lewes.

Nashland Farm, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north of Handcross, is a 15th-century house of simple detail. It has the typical central-purlin roof-construction with king-post trusses, and curved braces are seen in both outside walls and partitions forming the ends of the hall. The hall was of one bay, with solar and buttery wings north and south of it. An upper floor was inserted in the hall, and the central chimney-stack built in the north wing in the 16th century. It has a wide fire-place with a chamfered lintel, corner seats, and small recesses. The partition between the lower room on the site of the hall and the south wing is a plain one of board and batten type, unusual in Sussex and probably original. The external walls of the lower story are of modern brick, and the entrance in the west front has been furnished with a porch. This has a lintel carved with the initials and date 16 161 73 (73?): said to have been brought from Chod's Farm, Handcross, a house which still retains a 17th-century chimney-shaft at the north end, and wide fire-place with a lintel inscribed 'BILT 1690'.

SLAUGHAM is not mentioned in *MANORS* Domesday Book, but as the tithes were granted to the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes between 1091 and 1098 by Hugh son of Golda³ it is probable that he was then holding it. Slaugham, however, is not found among the estates of his descendants the Plaiz family, but in the 13th century it appears in the hands of the Poynings. The manor was subsequently held of Earl Warenne by the service of inclosing one perch of the earl's park at Cuckfield,⁴ and the overlordship descended with the rape.⁵ The first of the Poynings family recorded as holding lands in Slaugham was Luke de Poynings, in 1273.⁶ Michael de Poynings had a park there in 1296,⁷ and his successor Thomas obtained a grant of free warren there in 1328.⁸ Slaugham descended with Twineham and Poynings in the Poynings family⁹ until Eleanor, Countess of Northumberland, grand-daughter of Robert Poynings, died in 1484.¹⁰ It seems to have been conveyed by her son Henry, Earl of Northumberland, to John Drakys before 1488,¹¹ perhaps acting for William Covert, who died seised of it in 1494;¹² and it remained with his descendants for almost two centuries,¹³ in the same manner as Twineham Benfield (q.v.), except that after the death of Thomas Covert in 1643 Slaugham did not pass directly to his brother Sir John, but was held during her life by Diana Baynham only child of Thomas Covert.¹⁴ In 1672 Sir John Covert conveyed the manor of Slaugham to Sir William

Morton,¹⁵ from whom it passed before 1714 to James Morton son of Sir John's daughter Anne.¹⁶ In 1727, however, the manorial court was held by Samuel Thornton of Fingles in Ireland.¹⁷ Slaugham was shortly afterwards acquired by Charles Sergison, who died in 1732, bequeathing it to his nephew Thomas Warden Sergison,¹⁸ after which Slaugham descended, like Cuckfield (q.v.), in that family, the present owner being Major-Gen. Sir Bertram Sergison-Brooke, C.M.G., D.S.O.¹⁹

The custom of Borough English obtained in the manor.²⁰

The manor of *HYDE* first appears in 1596, when it, with common of pasture in the forest of St. Leonard, was transferred by Hugh Boord and Roger Aderton and Thomasine his wife to Thomas Aderton.²¹ Thomasine was the daughter of Richard Ockenden of Ashford, Kent;²² Hugh was a son of her second husband George Boord; Roger Aderton, her third husband, died in 1602, leaving 'lands in Slaugham called the Manor of Hyde' to his nephew and heir Thomas Atherton.²³ Thomas was executed for the murder of his wife,²⁴ and after the death of Thomasine in 1614 the manor passed to Atherton Denham, son of her daughter Margaret and Benjamin Denham.²⁵ Her son and heir Sir Stephen Boord in 1623 unsuccessfully claimed it against Atherton Denham and Dorothy his wife, who in 1634 conveyed it to Edmund Middleton,²⁶ and he and his wife Anne, possibly the daughter of Atherton Denham,²⁷ sold it to John Gillam in 1640.²⁸ It is next heard of in 1729, when Daniel Heathfield and Judith his wife were dealing with it, and in 1734 they conveyed it to Letitia Marsh.²⁹ The only other known reference to the manor is in 1775, when Susan Haner, widow, conveyed it to Thomas Milward.³⁰

The manor of *WARNINGLID* [Warthynglythe, Warynglide (xiv cent.); Warnynglyth (xv cent.); Wardyngleys, *alias* Warnynglegh (xvi cent.)] was probably held by the Poynings with the main manor of Slaugham, but was retained by that family until 1531, when Henry, Earl of Northumberland, conveyed it to Thomas Nevill.³¹ It came, like Crawley, into the hands of Sir Robert Southwell and Margaret,³² and in 1541-2 was released by them and Thomas Nevill to Thomas Brygham and Thomas Austen.³³ In 1549-50 the two latter conveyed Warninglid to John Agate,³⁴ in whose family it remained for more than a century. John Agate was succeeded in 1588 by his son Thomas, who died about 1625.³⁵ Thomas's son Henry was succeeded in 1641 by his infant daughter Mary,³⁶ who appears eventually to have married Richard Blower. Mary and Richard were holding Warninglid in 1671,³⁷ and in 1679 Mary granted the reversion of the manor after the deaths of herself and her husband to William



COVERT. Gules a fesse ermine between three martlets or.

³ *Lewes Chart*, i, 13; cf. Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 334.

⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. 13 Ed. III, 1st nos. 37.

⁵ *Ibid.* (Ser. 2), xcxi, 70.

⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 827; cf. *ibid.* 910; *Feud. Aids*, v, 129.

⁷ *Cal. Pat.* 1292-1306, p. 217.

⁸ *Cal. Chart.* 1327-41, p. 76.

⁹ It was one of the manors held in dower by Blanche de Mowbray, widow of Sir Thomas de Poynings, until her death in 1409: Chan. Inq. p.m. 10 Hen. IV, no. 48.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 1 Ric. III, no. 26.

¹¹ Add. MS. 39378, fol. 38.

¹² Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 179; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 290.

¹³ *Ibid.* 291, 292; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccclxvii, 187; cccclxv, 55; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 201; xx, 400.

¹⁴ Feet of F. *Suss. Hil.* 16-17 Chas. II; Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 185.

¹⁵ Feet of F. *Suss. East.* 24 Chas. II.

¹⁶ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 104; Comber, loc. cit.; *Recov. R. Mich.* 1 Geo. I, ro. 61.

¹⁷ *Cal. Misc. Coll. C, Lewes*, C. 17.

¹⁸ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 104.

¹⁹ Husband of Capt. Sergison's daughter Prudence, holding it as tenant for life.

²⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 180.

²¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 216.

²² Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 19.

²³ P.C.C. 27 Montague.

²⁴ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 201.

²⁵ Comber, op. cit. 20.

²⁶ Add. MS. 39495, fol. 201.

²⁷ Comber, op. cit. 20.

²⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 216.

²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ *Ibid.*

³¹ *Ibid.* xx, 447.

³² *Ibid.* xix, 239.

³³ *Ibid.* xx, 469.

³⁴ *Ibid.*

³⁵ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Horsham)*, 1.

³⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 6.

³⁷ *Ibid.* xx, 469.

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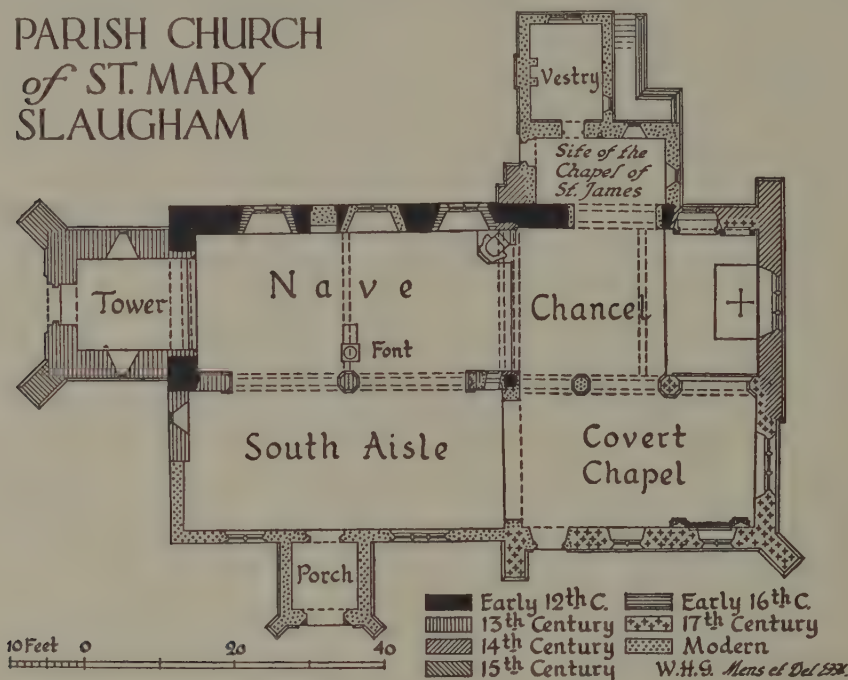
Holt. Mary Blower was still holding it, as a widow, in 1687-8, when she conveyed it to Thomas Ellis.³⁸ Further records of the property are wanting.

The church of *ST. MARY* consists of a *CHURCH* chancel, south chapel, nave, south aisle, south porch, and west tower: there are also modern north vestries. The nave is of early-12th-century date and retains an original doorway in its north wall: possibly the chancel is of the same period, but it retains no 12th-century features. Near the end of the 13th century a narrow south aisle was added, with an arcade of two bays, and the west tower built.

east respond to match: the other pillar is modern, with the west arch. The two-centred chancel arch is a plain one of two chamfered orders dying on the side walls of the nave. The chancel walls are of rubble of local stone and have north and south buttresses to the east wall. The roof is modern, except for one tie-beam apparently of the 14th century, and is covered with tiles.

The south chapel (34 ft. by 17 ft.) bears the date 1613 on the kneeler-stone to its west gable and the initials W.C. on that of its east gable. It has an east window of three cinquefoiled lights and tracery and two south windows of two lights, all with pointed heads and

PARISH CHURCH of ST. MARY SLAUGHAM



The chancel-arch is probably of the same period. In 1613 the south chapel was erected by William Covert: it had a doorway in its west wall. The south aisle was widened to its present limit in 1827, with its own east wall. In 1858-60, however, the wall was pierced by an archway, the west wall of the Covert chapel removed, and the two parts connected by the closure of the gap between them. The upper part of the tower was rebuilt and the organ chamber and vestry added.³⁹ In 1879 the south porch and a north vestry were added and the organ was removed from the west gallery.

The chancel (34 ft. by 19 ft.) has an east window of three trefoiled lights and tracery in a two-centred head, with an external hood-mould and head-stops. It is of early- to mid-14th-century date with some modern repairs. In the north wall is a window of two trefoiled ogee-headed lights and a quatrefoil in a two-centred head, perhaps of the same date, but all restored. Next west is a modern archway to the organ chamber. In this wall are two recessed tombs with brasses described below. On the south side an arcade of three bays opens into the south chapel. The western bay—a narrow one—is of 1858-60; the other two bays are contemporary with the chapel and have a middle octagonal pillar with moulded capital and chamfered base and

external hood-moulds: a south doorway at the west end, and the west archway to the aisle are modern. The walls are of ashlar. The roof has a plastered coved ceiling and is covered with Horsham slabs.

The nave (41 ft. by 19 ft.) has three north windows: the middle one of two lights is modern: the other two are of the early 16th century: each has two plain four-centred lights under a square head. Between the second and third windows is the 12th-century doorway: it is blocked and externally appears only in outline, showing grooved and chamfered imposts: inside it forms a round-headed recess with rough square jamb-stones. Its threshold is 3 ft. 6 in. above the present nave floor-level. The north wall is of an irregular rubble mainly of iron-stone, but near the base is some attempt at herring-bone coursing. The south arcade is of two bays and dates from c. 1290. The middle pillar is octagonal with a moulded capital and base, and the responds are square with chamfered angles. The eastern has a similarly moulded capital and chamfered base, and in its reveal is cut a rounded niche with a trefoiled ogee-head of the 14th century. The capital of the west respond was apparently destroyed for a gallery, now removed. The arches are of two chamfered orders and are pointed, the arcs being

³⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 469.

³⁹ During these alterations traces were

found of mural paintings, including the Last Supper and scenes from the Passion:

Suss. Arch. Coll. xiii, 237-9.

struck from centres well below the level of the capitals: they have medium-sized voussoirs. The wall, east of the east respond, has a piercing with a half-arch, perhaps a modern entrance to a pulpit. The roof is modern and is covered with tiles. The south aisle (19 ft. wide) has two south windows with tracery and a doorway, all modern. The west end includes the original west wall of the 13th-century narrow aisle, which was roofed continuously with the nave; it is built of uneven rubble with angle dressings and contains an original lancet window; there is also a modern west window. The ceiling is plastered and the roof covered with slates.

The west tower (12 ft. square) is of three stories, undivided externally. The walls of the top story are of modern squared rough ashlar, those below are of ancient uneven rubble. At the west angles are 15th-century diagonal buttresses, partly restored. The archway from the nave is a simple pointed opening of two chamfered orders dying on to the side walls. The late-13th-century west doorway is also a plain one of two chamfers: above it is a trefoil-headed light and in the side walls are narrow round-headed lights. There are no windows to the second story. The bell chamber has modern lancets in three walls and on the north side is a clock-face dated 1881. The roof is pyramidal and has a weather vane.

The south porch and the two north vestries are modern.

The font is of late-12th-century date, made of Sussex marble. It has a square, slightly tapering bowl: the north and south sides of it are treated with four very shallow round-headed panels; on the east face is carved a fish, and on the west three sprays with voluted tendrils, all in very low relief. The stem is cylindrical and surrounded by four round shafts: the base is moulded and common to both the stem and the shafts.

There is a communion table, now in a vestry, probably of Archbishop Laud's time. Another small table of later 17th-century date stands in the aisle: it has turned legs and fluted top-rails. Next it is a small iron chest, or strong-box, of the 16th century, with a lock covering the underside of the lid. The pulpit, of foreign workmanship and probably of the 17th century, was given in 1890 in memory of Sir Robert Loder, bart. It is enriched with jewel-ornament, cherubs' heads, &c., and has Corinthian shafts at the angles. Set on the north wall of the chancel are six sides of a former pulpit of the early 16th century: two are carved with figures, one of St. Peter holding a key and open book, the other, probably St. John, holding a closed book in the left hand: the right hand is now missing: the lower panels of these two sides are carved with the initials I W bound together with cords: the other panels have linen-fold ornament and in the lower panels of two of them are the initials *AF*, now damaged. Another carved panel, with the figures of the Blessed Virgin and Child and St. Anne, is now in the vestry.

On the east wall of the south chapel is set, upright, a floor slab containing the brass effigy of John Covert, 1503.⁴⁰ He is represented in armour with a sword on his left side and a dagger on his right, and his head resting on a helmet. The figure is only 2 ft. 2 in. high, and is set in an earlier large canopy, with cinque-foiled pointed head in an ogee gable, which is crocketed and has a cusped-wheel tympanum. The soffit of the

canopy is ribbed and has foiled compartments. The side posts have moulded bases, offsets, and gabled heads with crocketed finials: parts are missing from these, also two upper shields. There are two lower shields, one a modern plate, the other (sinister) charged with the Covert arms, and an inscription plate.

In the north wall of the chancel is a recessed tomb and canopy of early-16th-century detail. The tomb has a moulded slab, and a panelled front of four bays with tracery about central shields, now fitted with modern brass plates. The recess has octagonal shafts, with concave sides and moulded capitals and bases, and a very flattened Tudor arch with a pendant keystone and plain spandrels. Above it is a frieze of quatre-foiled circles and a moulded cornice, on which are caps to the pilasters over the shafts and keystone, and a row of cresting. The reveals of the recess are panelled and the soffit has ribbed lattice ornament. In the back of the recess have been re-set the brass effigies of Richard Covert (1547) and three of his wives, with an inscription plate, &c. The man, 12½ in. high, is shown in armour, kneeling on a cushion above a square-tiled pavement: he is turned three-quarter face to the dexter. Behind him is the first wife, 12 in. high, in pedimental head-dress, tight bodice, cuffs to the sleeves, full skirt, and girdle with a long pendant. The second wife is similar, 13 in. high. The standing figure, 13½ in. high, of the third wife is in similar costume, but the head-dress is more elaborately embroidered and the girdle is a sash rather than a belt. Each of the figures has a scroll inscribed with a different text. A small plate has the figure of Christ rising from the sepulchre with sleeping soldiers around. An inscription plate, below the man and first two wives, reads:

'Here lyeth Richard Covert Esquier and Elizabeth first wyfe of ye sayd Ric one of the dowghters & heierys of John Faggar Esquier & Elizabeth his wyfe, & Elizabeth secunde wyfe of ye afore sayd Ric' Covert the dowghter of George Nevyle Knyght lord Burgevenne & Jane Ascheburnhame dowghter of William Ascheburnham of Ascheburnham Esquier also Blanche Vawhan the dowghter of John Vawghan of Burgevenne Esquier last wife of the said Ric.' whiche sayde Ric decessed the VII day of June A^o dñi 1547 on whos soull ihū have mercy.'

Another plate below the third wife reads: 'Hec filia Willi Asscheburnham Armygery tercia uxor Richardi Covert Armygery Cuius Anime propicietur deus Amen.' There are also four shields, two with the arms of Covert, the third with Covert impaling three pelicans (Pelham) and the fourth Covert impaling a fesse between six molets (Ashburnham). The second and third shields probably belong to the 1503 brass.

Next east is a grey marble monument containing a brass effigy and inscription to Dame Jane daughter of John Covert, wife first of Sir Francis Fleming and then of Sir John Fetyplace, 1586-7. It is set in the back of a shallow recess which is flanked by detached round shafts supporting an entablature and pediment: in the tympanum of the pediment is an oval convex panel between two double roses. The base has a moulded slab and carved front with fleur de lis and other ornament in low relief. The effigy, kneeling before a prayer-desk (to sinister) on which is a book, is in Elizabethan costume with a hooded head-dress, ruff, stomacher, and full skirt. There are two shields of arms, of Fleming and Fetyplace respectively, impaling Covert.

⁴⁰ For illustrations and descriptions of the brasses see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxix, 120-5.

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Against the south wall of the south chapel is a large stone monument to Richard Covert, 1579. It has a square recess with a moulded frame: this is flanked by wide shallow pilasters and in the middle of each is a half-round Corinthian shaft. Above all is an entablature with an enriched frieze of strap-ornament and flowers. The shafts stand on high pedestals with panels carved with trophies of fruit and flowers and the main base between the pedestals has panels carved with trophies of arms, swags, and symbols of death, and three shields of arms of Covert impaling (1) a fesse between three leopards' heads, for Vaver; (2) a cheveron between three wheat-sheaves, for Faggar, and (3) quarterly 1 and 4 a cross for Bohun, 2 and 3, two crescents and a sinister quarter with a bird therein, intended for Cooke.⁴¹ In the recess, in almost complete round carving, are the well-sculptured kneeling figures of Richard and seven sons facing east, and behind them Ann (Hendley) his first wife with seven daughters and Cicely (Bowes) his second wife. Richard and his second, third, and fourth sons are represented in military costume, he himself being in armour. In front of him and his wives are prayer-desks with open books. There is no inscribed epitaph, but above each figure is an initial R(ichard), W(illiam—shown as a boy), W(alter), I(ohn), T(homas), M(ynors), A(lexander), F(rancis), A(nn Hendley), M(ary), E(llen), A(nn), I(oan), E(lizabeth), D(ulcibella), M(argery), and C(iceley Bowes), and, above, is a small panel with the date 1579. Higher in the recess, in high relief, are three achievements of arms, the shields charged: dexter Covert; middle Covert impaling Hendley, quarterly 1 and 4 fretty a martlet in each fret, 2 and 3

a saltire engrailed ermine between four roundels in chief a sitting hind: sinister Covert impaling Bowes, ermine three bows a chief with a swan holding in its beak a gem ring between two leopards' heads. Above the monument are three funeral helmets with vizors, the outer two bearing the Covert crest of a gold leopard's head.

On the wall above the window which is partly covered by this monument is a scrolled cartouche of the Covert arms, of the 17th century, and in the window head is a coloured quarry of the leopard's head crest.

The communion plate includes a silver cup of 1586 with the usual band of foliage ornament about the bowl, and a pewter plate; the other pieces are of the 19th century.⁴²

There are five bells of 1773 by Thomas Jannaway. The registers date from 1654.

A slab by the west doorway, outside, appears to be a much broken coffin lid.

In the churchyard are several ancient table-tombs, one to THOMAS NORVODE 1615. The north entrance to the churchyard has a modern lych-gate and south of the south chapel is a large yew-tree.

The advowson of Slaugham rectory *ADVOWSON* is first mentioned in 1339, when it was held by Thomas de Poynings,⁴³ and it subsequently descended with the manor⁴⁴ until 1879, when it was conveyed by Warden Sergison to the rector, the Rev. R. A. Watson.⁴⁵ It had, however, returned to the Sergisons by 1894, and was still held by the family in 1907.⁴⁶

The present patron is Col. John Raymond Warren, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P.

TWINEHAM

Tuynhe, Twyne (xiii cent.); Twynym (xv cent.).

Twineham is a small parish of 1,937 acres, level and low-lying in the valley of the Adur, south of Bolney. The whole parish is below the 100-ft. level, except for a small piece by Twineham Court on the western side, and the soil is clay. The village and church are in the centre of the parish, at an elevation of about 50 ft., on the road running north from High Cross to Bolney. Farther up this road is Twineham Green, and between the two a road branches east leading to the hamlet of Hickstead and the house of that name, where it is crossed by the main road from Brighton to London, which passes through the eastern side of the parish. From the south end of the village of Twineham a lane leads west to Twineham Place, and from Twineham Green a road branches west, leading to Twineham Grange and Twineham Court, and joins the road going north to Warninglid, which forms the western boundary of the rape.

Hickstead Place, connected with the Order of St. John of Jerusalem as part of their manor of Saddlescombe, dates from the end of the 15th century and was originally of L-shaped plan. The main range had an upper hall approached by a small projecting staircase on its north side. Early in the 17th century an east range was added, parallel with the west wing, making the plan of half-H shape, and the filling-in between the two south wings late in the 17th century

brought the plan to its present rectangular form. The insertion of the second floor in the hall may have been done in the 17th or 18th century. Most of the windows are modern.

The external elevations are generally of brick and tile-hanging. The west side has its upper story jettied about 2 ft. beyond the lower wall and retains four moulded and curved brackets, two marking the width of the original north range, which has a gabled end, and two are in the side of the south wing. The great chimney-stack at the south end of the west wing seems to have work of two periods. The lower part, of brick with stone angle-dressings and plinth, is of the early 16th century. The upper part is of more even brickwork with a regular diaper of blue headers: the sides are crow-stepped and the two square brick shafts set diagonally: this part is about mid-16th-century date and has a stone fire-place inside. The actual end of the wing behind the stack also has a crow-stepped gable. The remainder of the south elevation is of the 17th century. The entrance has a moulded oak frame and square head: the posts are carved at the bases with a shallow marigold flower above a fluted stop. In it is an ancient door of twenty panels with moulded and nail-studded rails and muntins, formerly in the south wall of the old north range. The north side has several later outbuildings against it but retains the small staircase projection already mentioned: it has a gabled

⁴¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lix, 201.

⁴² *Ibid.*, liv, 252.

⁴³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 13 Edw. III,

1st nos. 37.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* 10 Hen. IV, 215 (48); Recov. R. Mich. 15 Chas. I, ro. 30; *ibid.* East.

1649, ro. 150; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁴⁵ Add. MS. 39469, fol. 261-2.

⁴⁶ *Chich. Dioc. Cal.*

head with a late-15th-century moulded barge-board.¹ The main wall west of the projection has a 17th-century projecting chimney-stack of brick with a cross-shaped shaft. The ground-floor wall farther east is of brick, but contains a 16th-century narrow window of three lights with moulded oak mullions, below which a deeper window was inserted in the 17th century.

The chief interest of the interior lies in the construction of the original north and west ranges. The north range had an upper hall of about 26 ft., open to the roof, and retains the original roof-trusses in the attic, their positions being defined by the story-posts in the ground and first floors. They are spaced apart 7 ft., 9 ft., and 9 ft. from west to east, then there is a narrow 4-ft. bay, evidently a screens passage, and east of this a further 7-ft. bay, for a buttery or pantry. The trusses are unusual in construction: they have tie-beams on each of which are four posts carrying a pair of highly cambered lintels below the normal cambered collar-beam. The lintels meet in the middle, and between the middle posts their soffits are cut to form a four-centred arch like a wide doorway; they are tenoned into the collar-beams. The tie-beams are concealed in the later second floor, but under their ends against the story-posts are moulded curved brackets: the mouldings probably ran along the whole soffit originally between the brackets. The bays have side-purlins, supported, except in the narrow bay, by curved wind-braces. The trusses above both sides of the narrow bay were closed partitions of closely set studs, but when the attic chamber was created their collar-beams were cut through and fitted with door-posts for access to the chamber. On the ground floor the bay retains its west partition (the east wall of the dining-room) and has in its south end an original moulded doorway: there is also a three-light window in its south wall, now looking into the late-17th-century entrance hall. On the first floor most of the west partition has been removed for a bath-room, but in its east partition there is a similar doorway at the north end, and at the south end, now blocked and concealed in a cupboard, was another moulded doorway. In the north wall of the 9-ft. bay of the hall next west, now in the bath-room, is the doorway from the former stair; this has moulded posts and four-centred arch with foliage spandrels in a square head. The dining-room, below the hall, has an open-timbered ceiling with stop-chamfered main beams running both ways.

In the south wing the ground-floor room reveals no ancient features. The upper room of the wing has a coved ceiling of plaster springing from the east and west walls. The ceiling is divided into two bays (of 11 ft. south and 8 ft. north, corresponding with the positions of the moulded brackets under the overhang outside) by a moulded wood rib which started from the floor and formed an arch; but only the curves at the springing remain. The roof above has wind-braced purlins, as in the other range, but the two bays are divided by a 'scissors' truss above the vault. The truss has a piece packed in below it, tenoned and dovetailed into it, to carry the longitudinal beam which takes the backing-joists of the vault. The south fire-place in this chamber is of the 16th century and has moulded stone jambs and a four-centred arch in a square head with foiled spandrels. The roof above the 17th-century east range has been reconstructed but includes a re-used beam which was the head of a very long early window

with diamond-shaped sockets for the mullions. A similar beam is also re-used above the attic stair. There is a great deal of modern wood-carving in the house. Some of the fittings include woodwork of the 16th and 17th centuries to the fire-places, &c., and, in the south-east room, linen-fold panelling. The middle entrance hall has wall panelling of bolelection-moulded type, c. 1700. The main staircase on its south side is still later and on its north side a partition to a former passage has been replaced by an open-arched screen of three bays: in the head of this are set five early-16th-century carved frieze panels, of Tudor and De La Warr badges. The panels are said to be indigenous, and two others, one with the De La Warr crampet badge, are worked into a bedstead upstairs. Among the articles of furniture may be mentioned an Elizabethan hall table with carved bulbous legs, and a cradle of Henry VIII's time; also a mid-17th-century hall- or kitchen-table now in the 'Castle', with other pieces of ancient woodwork. The walls of the staircase, now open, in the lower part, to the entrance hall, are covered with monochromes on canvas of hunting scenes, done about 1800: the decorated plastered ceiling is of the same date.

The 'Castle' is a detached building standing to the south of the west side of the house. Its purpose is not apparent. Its plan is square and it has a porch-wing on the east side containing a staircase of solid oak balks rising straight through it to the upper floor. It is now of two stories, the ground floor having been lowered in modern times, but two arches in the west wall just above the plinth may have been windows to a basement. The walls are of brick with crow-stepped gables to the north and south sides. The north doorway is modern, but traces of its former higher position remain, and above this is a segmental-pointed arch in the brick-work, indicating perhaps a former small window. A similar arch exists in the front of the porch-wing. The present windows are all modern, but there are tiny ancient loops in the side of the porch-wing. The most curious feature is the large number of huge bricks which are incorporated with the normal brick-work of the walls. They are arranged in various patterns, mostly as double crosses, but also as single crosses, stepped crosses, lozenge-shaped rings, straight courses, or as checkers with the ordinary bricks. Most of them are glazed; some appear to be 20 in. by 9 in. by 7 in. bricks, set facewise or endwise according to the requirements of the pattern, others are 14 in. by 7 in. by 5 in., and others about 12 in. square on the exposed faces.¹ The main roof is of two bays and has three trusses with chamfered tie-beams, sloping struts or queen-posts and collar-beams, and side-purlins with wind-braces, as in the house. There are similar wind-braced purlins above the staircase. The roofs are covered with Horsham slabs.

The ground between the house and 'castle' had a boundary wall, at least on the west side, some fragments of which still exist, and on the same side is a tall yew hedge with openings cut through it. East of this space there was formerly a bowling-green.

Westovers, close to Hickstead Place, was also a part of the Hospitallers' estate. The house dates from about 1460 and had a great hall of two 10-ft. bays and solar and buttery wings of about 12 ft., all facing approximately east and west. Late in the 16th century the central chimney-stack was built in, filling the whole of the northern bay of the hall, with a lobby to the east

¹ Possibly they came from an older building and are early medieval experiments in brick-making.

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of it, and the upper floor was inserted in the hall; the house was also lengthened to the north by two further bays. In the 19th century a wing was added at the south end, with a porch in the angle. Built in the front of the porch is a 15th-century moulded beam, said to have come from Bolney Church. The old walls are of timber-framing, with story-posts dividing the length into six bays. Three of them in the east front retain the upper curved braces. The two later northernmost bays are of plain rectangular framing. In the back wall of the north (buttery) wing is an upper window of three lights with moulded mullions of the 16th century, now blocked, and in the same wall of the northernmost bay is a former four-light window with diamond-shaped mullions: another, similar, of six lights, all blocked but one, exists in the half-gable head of the north wall. The roof is covered with Horsham slabs and the central chimney-stack is long and narrow, extending along the ridge; its southern fire-place is 9 ft. 9 in. wide, with stone jambs and oak bressummer. The roof of the original part extends over hall and wings in four bays with five strutted king-posts carrying a central purlin below the collar-beams; the mortices for longitudinal braces from king-posts to purlin remain. An interesting relic is a fine moulded beam of early-14th-century section which has been re-used upside-down as a sill-piece for the northern wall of the 15th-century part of the building.

Twineham Place is a fairly large house of *c.* 1620. The plan is rectangular, with a lean-to addition along the back: both are of timber-framing, but the main block has mostly brick and tile-hung walls. The middle room on the ground floor has a very heavy middle ceiling-beam, 17 in. by 12 in., stop-chamfered, and exposed joists.

Park Farm, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south-east of the church, is a house of *c.* 1600 of L-shaped plan, the lower walls of 18th-century brick, the upper tile-hung on framing. The north half of the main block is narrower, and lower than the south half, and where they meet is a great chimney-stack 10 ft. thick, with a wide fire-place. An unusual feature is a door at the foot of the attic stair with a shuttered peep-hole.

Slipe, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east of the church, is a timber-framed building of about mid-15th-century date, facing north and south.² It had a great hall of two bays, and west solar and east buttery wings, of two stories, under one continuous roof. Later in the 15th century a wing, of two bays (half since removed) extending northwards from the solar wing, made the plan L-shaped; and the buttery wing was extended by one short bay and by the addition of a lean-to against the eastern half of the south side. In the late 16th century the central chimney-stack was inserted and the upper floor in the hall was added. The external timber-framing shows the curved braces of the period in the upper story; parts of the walls of the lower story have been replaced with brick. The north-west wing shows on the west face a story-post built close against the earlier angle-post of the solar, and this wing, as well as the eastern extension and the lean-to addition, retains some close-set studding that is not found in the original walls of the hall and its wings. The roofs are covered with Horsham slabs. The chimney-stack fills the width of the eastern bay of the former hall and has an east fire-

place 10 ft. wide with a 15-in. bressummer, and a west fire-place 8 ft. wide. Behind the eastern is a small round oven. The lobby north of the chimney is entered by an original pointed doorway. The original middle truss of the hall crosses the east front of the chimney-stack and has a cambered tie-beam supported by two heavy braces forming a pointed arch. Above the ceiling is a strutted king-post with the usual braces below a central purlin. The hall-truss has never been pierced for a doorway, so that in the upper story there is no direct communication between the east and west halves of the house. The closed ends of the hall also show the 15th-century framing. The lower part of the west wall has a lining of moulded posts and boards which may be a part of the later fitting. The roof is continued over the solar and buttery wings. The ceiling of the lower story of the west solar wing shows the original heavy wide flat rafters, but that over the buttery wing, as well as that of the room west of the chimney-stack, has late-16th-century stop-chamfered main beams and joists. In the solar wing and in the east extension are ancient winding staircases with central newels. The north extension was always of two stories: the lower story has huge ceiling-joists. The upper storey shows the original strutted king-posts and central purlins with longitudinal braces: they are carried on framing at the south end close to, but separate from, that of the earlier solar wing, and at the north end on a cambered tie-beam of which the braces form a four-centred arch. This was originally the middle truss of the wing: the outside wall to the upper story is now of square timber-framing against the truss and has a tile-hung gable. Against the west side of the wing is a modern projecting chimney-stack.

Hookers Farm is mainly of modern brick, but the west end of the building shows original early-17th-century framing in the upper story and in the north gable-head, which projects on a chamfered bressummer, supported by moulded brackets; the barge-board is moulded and has a pendant at the apex. A cottage $\frac{1}{2}$ mile farther north also shows 17th-century timber-framing in its east front and has a rebated chimney-stack near the south end. The roof is tiled.

Great Wapses Farm, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south-west of the church, is an early-17th-century building to which a parallel addition was built *c.* 1720. The older part, facing south, has some of the timber-framing exposed, and the eastern half-gable head has herring-bone brick nogging. There is also a 16th-century timber-framed barn of three bays, with a south aisle open to it by arched bays.

Mercers, farther west, is probably of 15th-century origin. The oldest part was of rectangular plan, facing east and west. It has a central chimney-stack built in in the 16th century with a cross-shaped shaft of thin bricks and a wide fire-place with stone jambs and oak lintel. The framing of the walls and ceilings is exposed, but the roof-construction is more or less concealed. To this building was added late in the 16th century a taller wing projecting west, making the plan L-shaped: it has on its south side a projecting chimney-stack with a tall shaft of thin bricks with a moulded base. In the west wall of the earlier part are Elizabethan windows with moulded mullions, but a more interesting feature is a large dormer window inserted at the same period

² Slipe was apparently owned in the 16th century by the family of Pycombe and during the whole of the 17th century

by the Agates, though actually occupied from at least 1665 by James Cripps. In 1714 it passed to James Wood of Hick-

stead, with which estate it has descended: *Suss. County Mag.* x, 232-3.



TWINEHAM: HICKSTEAD PLACE AND 'THE CASTLE'



TWINEHAM: SLIPE



TWINEHAM CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, 1809
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)

in the east front, flush with the wall below, of timber-framing and having a gable with a moulded barge-board and a pendant at the apex. A farmhouse, next north, now several tenements, has some 17th-century timber-framing exposed in the middle part of the south front. The roof is tiled and above it is a plain square chimney-shaft. Inside is a wide fire-place and open-timbered ceilings. Farther north, on the east side of the road, are two cottages with mid- to late-17th-century chimney-stacks.

The manor of *TWINEHAM* was held *MANORS* in the 14th century of the barony of Lewes in free socage, by the service of a pair of gilt spurs at Christmas, or *6d.*³ In 1260 Earl John de Warenne gave the manor to John de Ferles and Maud his wife.⁴ Luke de Poynings was holding land in Twineham, and probably the manor, in 1280.⁵ He died in 1294 and was succeeded by his son Michael.⁶ Thomas son of Michael, created Lord Poynings in 1337, was slain in the battle of Sluys in 1339, leaving a son Michael.⁷ There was then a park worth *3s. 9d.* attached to the manor. Twineham then descended with the manor of Poynings (q.v.), until the death of Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, at Towton in 1461. His son Henry was restored to his father's honours about 1470 and inherited Twineham at his mother Eleanor's death in 1484.⁸ His son Henry Algernon held it from 1489 to 1527, but Henry, the next Earl of Northumberland,⁹ sold the manor in 1531 to Sir Thomas Nevill.¹⁰ The latter settled it in 1536 on his daughter Margaret and her husband Sir Robert Southwell,¹¹ who in 1542 sold it to Richard Stapley.¹² In the Stapley family Twineham Manor descended from father to son for more than two hundred years. Richard's son John succeeded in 1546,¹³ and William son of the latter in 1568.¹⁴ Two Johns followed, in 1602 and 1606 respectively,¹⁵ and Anthony son of the second John in 1639.¹⁶ He died in 1667¹⁷ and his son Anthony in 1733, from whom the manor passed to his son John, and in 1737 to his grandson Richard, the last of the Stapleys,¹⁸ who died in 1762, leaving the manor to his elder daughter Martha, who four years later married James Wood.¹⁹ The latter died in 1806, and the property passed to their son James, at whose death without issue in 1831 Twineham passed to his nephew John son of John Wood, of Ockley in Keymer. His daughter Charlotte, who died before her father, married William Davidson

of Muir House, Midlothian, and to him the manor came in 1877. At his death in 1916 Twineham passed to his daughter Miss Blanche Davidson, the present owner.²⁰

The manor of *TWINEHAM BENFIELD* [Benefelle (xi cent.); Benetfeld (xiii cent.)] was held before the Conquest by Cola, of King Edward the Confessor, and Turgod held it of him, for two hides. In 1086 Scolland held it of William de Warenne, and it apparently did not pay geld, but its value had doubled. Another hide in Benfield, which had been held by Lewin before the Conquest, was held in 1086 by Alfred foster-father of Earl Warenne.²¹

Benfield formed two of the $7\frac{1}{2}$ knight's fees attached to the manor of Shere in Surrey, held of de Warenne as of Reigate Castle. This manor was held in 1242 by Roger de Clere, who next year conveyed it to John fitz Geoffrey,²² including the service of Walter Weps for his tenement in Benfield, and that of William son of William de Benefeld, for his tenement in the same place.²³ When John's son John died in 1274 one knight's fee was held by Walter le Weps, and another by Richard de Benetfeld;²⁴ and on the death of this John's brother and heir Richard fitz John in 1296 Roger le Weps and John de Benefeld each held a carucate in Benfield as one fee.²⁵ Shere was then divided between the sisters of Richard fitz John, and the Benfield fees (held by 'Henry' de Benefeld and 'John' Weps) fell to Joan Butler,²⁶ and John Benfield died in 1325, holding a capital messuage, about 150 acres of land, and rents in Benfield as one fee of Edmund le Botiller's manor of Shere Vachery.²⁷ There is, however, no later reference to this mesne lordship.

Nothing is known of the Weps fee before 1242 or after 1296. A John de Beningefeld or Benetfeld occurs in 1187,²⁸ and about the same time is called a knight of Hawise wife of Roger de Clere.²⁹ William de Benefeld, who held land in Twineham of the Prior of Lewes in 1226,³⁰ may be the father of the William mentioned in 1242. The latter's widow Agnes is mentioned in 1247³¹ and their son Richard in 1275.³² He was probably the father of the John who died in 1325, when his heir was his grandson James son of Walter. Besides the knight's fee already mentioned, his possessions in Benfield included 20 acres of land and a windmill held of the Prior of Lewes by service of 10s. yearly at the feast of St. Pancras, 'on which day he ought to come to Lewes with twelve others on horseback and spend the day at the cost of the prior, who shall give him on leaving a cheese price 15d.; which land and mill are not sufficient to pay that rent.'³³ A John Benfield is mentioned in 1378,³⁴ and (probably another) John in 1412³⁵ and 1434-5.³⁶ He was the last of the



STAPLEY. *Argent a fesse engrailed erminees between three roundels sable with two dragons' head raxed or on the fesse.*

³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 13 Edw. III (1st nos.), 37; *ibid.* 49 Edw. III, pt. 2 (1st nos.), 27; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 195.

⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 641; Ct. R. Lewes, Norfolk Muniments.

⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 910.

⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 14; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 329. Hawise de Ponyng' appears in the Subs. R. of 1296 (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 47).

⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 13 Edw. III (1st nos.), 37; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vi, 290.

⁸ *Ibid.* 300; Chan. Inq. p.m. 2 Rich. III, no. 26.

⁹ G.E.C. op. cit., 230.

¹⁰ Feet of F. Div. Co. Trin. 23 Hen. VIII; he was apparently a brother of

George, Lord Bergavenny: G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 32.

¹¹ Cal. Deeds, Lewes, Coll. W. H. 371.

¹² Feet of F. Suss. Mich. 34 Hen. VIII; Recov. R. Mich. 34 Hen. VIII, ro. 145.

¹³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), lxxxv, 68.

¹⁴ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Horsham)*, 326.

¹⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 982, 984.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* 986. ¹⁷ Comber, op. cit. 329.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 330-1. ¹⁹ *Ibid.* 330-1, 381.

²⁰ *Ibid.* 381; Wood MSS. Hove Public Library.

²¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 443. Benfield was then in Windham Hundred.

²² *V.C.H. Surrey*, iii, 113.

²³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, 422.

²⁴ Cal. Inq. p.m. ii, 153.

²⁵ *Ibid.* iii, 422 (p. 285).

²⁶ *Ibid.* p. 287.

²⁷ Cal. Inq. p.m. vi, 570.

²⁸ *Pipe R.* 33 Hen. II (Pipe R. Soc.), 109.

²⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xl, 53.

³⁰ *Ibid.* ii, 198.

³¹ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 346.

³² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xl, 33; *Rot. Hund.*

(*Rec. Com.*), ii, 210.

³³ Cal. Inq. p.m. vi, 570; Cf. *Suss. Rec.*

Soc. ii, 198, 199.

³⁴ Lay Subs. (Wood MSS. in Hove Pub. Lib.).

³⁵ *Feud. Aids*, vi, 525. He probably succeeded as an infant, as in 1387 a court was held by Simon Yngolf and Simon Benfield:

Manor Rolls, Lewes.

³⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 2987.

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male line and the manor passed to his daughter Joan the wife of John Chauncy, and subsequently to their daughter Margaret, who married Thomas Austyn and in 1471 released her estates in Twineham to Sir Walter Pawnefold.³⁷ Sir Walter must have immediately transferred the manor to William Covert, as the latter held his first court there in the same year.³⁸ Twineham Benfield then remained in the Covert family for more than two hundred years. John Covert son of William succeeded his father in 1494 but died without male issue in 1503, when the manor was placed in the hands of feoffees to the use of his first cousin and heir Richard Covert.³⁹ From Richard the manor passed in 1547 to his son John, who died in 1558 or 1559 and was succeeded by his son Richard.⁴⁰ Richard's son Sir Walter Covert, who held the manor from 1579 to Jan. 1632, died childless, and after the death of his widow Jane in 1666⁴¹ Benfield passed to the sons of their niece Anne⁴² and her husband Sir Walter Covert of Maidstone.⁴³ Anne's son Thomas died in 1643, leaving an only daughter, and Benfield passed to his brother Sir John Covert, who lived until 1679.⁴⁴ Sir John's son Walter died seven years before his father, so that the property devolved upon his three surviving daughters, Walter's sisters, of whom the second, Mary, received Twineham Benfield as a marriage portion in 1676, in which year she and her husband Henry Goring held their first court there.⁴⁵ In 1689 Mary Goring, then a widow, was presented at her own court for not keeping up the pound or providing a dinner for her tenants.⁴⁶ She subsequently married Nicholas Best, and survived him, living until 1729.⁴⁷ Her son Sir Harry Goring only survived her for two years, when the manor passed to his son Sir Charles Matthew Goring.⁴⁸ Twineham Benfield remained in the Goring family until after 1870,⁴⁹ after which it was acquired by Mr. Huth. Colonel Stephenson R. Clarke, C.B., J.P., subsequently acquired Twineham Place, which he gave to his son Mr. Edmund S. Clarke, who still holds it. All manorial rights have lapsed.

The reputed manor of GROVELAND appears in the latter half of the 16th century,⁵⁰ in the possession of John Brodbridge, who held it of the manor of Camoys Court in Barcombe (q.v.) by rent of 1lb. of pepper.⁵¹ John Brodbridge died in 1574 and the estate passed to his brother Henry.⁵² Groveland appears in the following century in the hands of George Luxford, of Ockley in Keymer (q.v.),⁵³ who died seised of it in 1631, leaving it to his younger son Richard.⁵⁴ It passed to Richard's son George, who was holding it in 1671⁵⁵ and died in 1679 or 1680, leaving a son William, aged

12;⁵⁶ but in 1700 the estate was conveyed by Richard Knowles and Frances, and Edward Benson and Mary, to Henry Lintott.⁵⁷ Subsequently it was divided up, for in 1759 a quarter of the manor was held by John Smith and Frances, James West and Anne, and Richard Turner and Mary;⁵⁸ in 1762 the whole property was in the possession of Richard Turner and Mary, Jane Steele, widow, Mary Ewitt, widow, Thomas Ewitt and Sarah, and Richard Dungate and Mary.⁵⁹ Ten years later it had evidently devolved upon the Dungates, for it was then conveyed by Richard Dungate and Thomas Huett Dungate to John Ellis,⁶⁰ after which it is lost sight of.

HICKSTEAD [Hecstede, Hecgstede (xiv cent.); Hokstede (xvi cent.)] was a freehold of the manor of Saddlescombe (q.v.).⁶¹ Matthew de la Cumbe, who held Hickstead in the 13th century, gave it to his brother Richard.⁶² Richard was succeeded by his son Matthew de la Cumbe,⁶³ who was living about 1260 and had a son Richard.⁶⁴ The family was still holding land in the district in 1327 and 1332.⁶⁵ Eventually, probably towards the end of the 16th century, Hickstead was acquired by the Stapleys of Twineham Manor, for William Stapley died seised of it in 1602,⁶⁶ and his son John in 1608, when it is described as a capital messuage with 93 acres of land.⁶⁷ Thereafter it descended with Twineham Manor (q.v.), to which it became the mansion house.

The church of *ST. PETER* is a small *CHURCH* structure consisting of a chancel with a modern north organ-chamber, nave, south porch, and west tower, with a shingled oak spire. The walls are of brick, with remains of original plastering outside; the roofs are covered with Horsham stone slabs. The church was built in the first or second decade of the 16th century, probably on the site of an earlier building.⁶⁸

The chancel (c. 17½ ft. by 13 ft. inside) has an east window of two elliptical-headed lights; the jambs, heads, and mullion are of stone; it has wide splays inside and a segmental-pointed rear-arch. In the north wall is a modern archway to the organ-chamber. In the south wall are two single-light windows with brick jambs and four-centred heads, the western set lower than the eastern.

The roof, of trussed rafter and collar-beam type, has a cambered tie-beam that originally had arched braces below it. Another against the west wall also has mortices for former brackets. The chancel-arch has plain plastered chamfered jambs and head. In the south wall below the eastern window is a recess for a

³⁷ Close R. 11 Edw. IV, m. 17.

³⁸ Manor Rolls, Lewes. Margaret Austin still claimed a portion of the manor a year or two later: E. Chan. Proc. 47 (25). She later married John Williams, but her male heirs finally renounced their claim to the manor in 1485: Add. MS. 39378, fols. 42, 116.

³⁹ Ibid.; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlvii, 120; Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 180-1.

⁴⁰ Ibid. 181-3; *Recov. R. Trin.* 1 Eliz. ro. 124; *ibid. Trin.* 14 Eliz. ro. 945; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 292.

⁴¹ Comber, *op. cit.* 183; Manor Rolls, Lewes; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 293.

⁴² Anne died in September 1632: *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), cccclxxxiii, 55; cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlvii, 145.

⁴³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 294; cf. Comber, *op. cit.* 184-5.

⁴⁴ Ibid. 186; Feet of F. Div. Co.

Trin. 1655.

⁴⁵ Comber, *op. cit.*; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 450; Manor Rolls, Lewes.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid.; Comber, *op. cit.* 186.

⁴⁸ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iv, 102; Manor Rolls, Lewes; *Recov. R. Trin.* 6 Geo. III, ro. 418.

⁴⁹ Add. MSS. 5684, fol. 144; Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 248; *Recov. R. Trin.* 39 Geo. III, m. 78; Lower, *Sussex*, ii, 211.

⁵⁰ Early tenants may have been William atte Grove in 1296, and Ralph in 1327 and 1332; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 47, 178, 292.

⁵¹ Ibid. xxxiv, 218; iii, 66.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Cf. Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 165.

⁵⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 680.

⁵⁵ Ibid. xix, 189.

⁵⁶ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 166.

⁵⁷ Feet of F. *Suss. Mich.* 12 Will. III.

⁵⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 189.

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ In the parish of Newtimber in Poyning's Hundred. See also Cott. MS. Nero E. vi, fol. 269. Cf. *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvi, g. 947 (43).

⁶² Cott. MS. Nero E. vi, fol. 267 b.; *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.*), ii, 63, 126.

⁶³ Cott. MS. Nero E. vi, fol. 268.

⁶⁴ *Lewes Chart.* ii, 34.

⁶⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 180, 294. Helewise, Maud, and William de Heghested are mentioned in 1296; *ibid.* 47.

⁶⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 982.

⁶⁷ Ibid. 984.

⁶⁸ References to repairs to the church occur in the diary of Richard Stapley of Hickstead in 1692 and later: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ii, 118. Several of the rear-arches are reinforced with iron straps.

piscina: it has a triangular head: there is no basin. By it is a small framed oak chest of the early 17th century, with three locks. The Communion-rails are of mid-17th-century date and have a moulded rail and 2-in. turned balusters.

The nave (35 ft. by 18 ft.) has a north window of two four-centred lights in brick: it is set low in the wall. East of it is a modern 'pulpit-window' at a higher level. There appears to have been a gallery-window close under the eaves in the western half, now walled up with modern brick. In the south wall is a similar original two-light window placed rather higher in the wall than the north window. Both have wide splays inside and four-centred chamfered rear-arches. Near the west end is an old single light. The south doorway has original brick jambs and four-centred arch of two chamfered orders. The walls of the nave differ from those of the chancel in having chamfered plinths. The gabled roof, of original trussed-rafter and collar-beam type, has two plain chamfered tie-beams which may be later additions. Another tie-beam is buried in the east wall inside, and the framing of the other timbers is seen on the outer face above the chancel.

The west tower is low, with diagonal buttresses of two stages to the west angles. The walls have chamfered plinths like those of the nave. A plain four-centred archway of the full width of the tower opens from the nave. The west doorway has chamfered jambs and a depressed three-centred arch in a square head. The reveals have sockets for a draw-bar. The window above is of two four-centred lights, restored, excepting the north jambs, with new bricks. The bell-chamber has north, south, and west windows of one four-centred light. The east face has stepped drop-courses above the nave-roof. The short spire is octagonal with splayed base-steps. Above it is a vane and weather-cock.

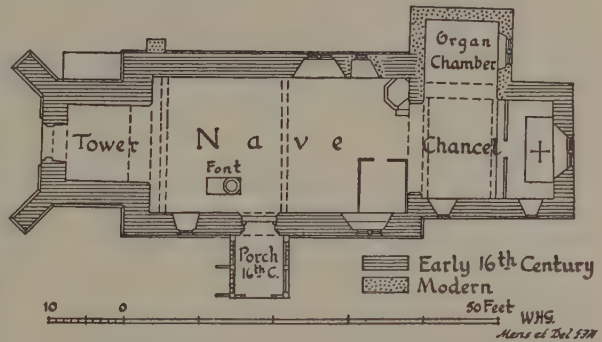
The south porch is of 16th-century timber-framing with brick infilling: the front gable has a moulded barge-board. The posts to the entrance are modern, but the door is of ancient oak battens. The roof, of two bays, has two trusses with collar-beams, and the northern with a tie-beam. The side-purlins are strengthened by straight wind-braces: the rafters are laid flatwise.

The font is octagonal with hollow chamfers to the underside of the bowl and to the base: it is probably of the 14th century. The pulpit, of hexagonal plan, has four sides of early-17th-century panels: each side has a round-arched bay with jewelled imposts between fluted angle-posts, and, above them, frieze-panels carved with foliage-scroll work; the cornice, to the book-rest, is enriched with foliage and gadroon ornament. A square pew in the south-east corner is made up of panelling of c. 1600 with carved ornament on two sides. The other pews are modern, except the 18th-century front to the north block, which is painted with the lettering: EAST HOOKERS JOHN SPENCE WEST HOOKERS PAISLAND; above John Spence is added the word PARK.

The glazing is modern except one quarry in the south-east window of the nave: this incorporates a rectangular piece 3 in. by 2½ in. painted with the arms of De La Warr, gules crusily fitchy a lion argent, about which are scraps of black-letter: late-15th-century.

The modern reredos incorporates four carved panels, perhaps from a 14th-century chest of foreign workmanship. They are of window-tracery designs, three with crocketed arches; the middle panel is carved with a Paschal Lamb, two others have crowned shields with the sacred monograms *ih̄s* and *✠*. Above the chancel arch is an oil painting of the Holy Family which is thought to be the original of an engraving (also hanging in the church) of 1797 made from a painting by

PARISH CHURCH of ST PETER TWINEHAM



Camillo Procaccini, then in the Imperial Gallery, Dusseldorf.

There are five bells: the treble, second, and tenor (re-cast) date from 1912: the third and fourth are pre-Reformation by John Tonne; the third is inscribed + In + multis + Annis + nomen + baptiste + Iohannis; the fourth, + hoc + michi + iam + retro + nomen + de + Simone + Petro.

The communion plate comprises a cup of 1667, of which the stem and foot are possibly Elizabethan; a paten-cover, probably of 1667; a silver-gilt paten; a flagon and two alms-plates, silver, of 1722. There is also a gilt copper chalice, with modern bowl but early stem, presented in 1894.⁶⁹

The advowson of the church and *ADVOWSON* rectory of Twineham has always belonged to the lords of the manor of Twineham Benfield. In 1336 and 1339, when it is referred to as the chapel of Twineham, presentation was made by the Crown, owing to the minority of the heir of John de Benfeld.⁷⁰ The advowson descended with the manor in the Covert family⁷¹ and passed with it to the Gorings.⁷² Sir Charles Goring presented until 1887,⁷³ when it was acquired by Mr. Edward Huth from the four daughters of Sir H. D. Goring,⁷⁴ and it was subsequently given by him to Exeter College, Oxford, who are the present holders.

⁶⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liv, 257-8.

⁷⁰ *Cal. Pat.* 1334-8, p. 225; *ibid.* 1338-40, p. 264.

⁷¹ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁷² *Ibid.*; *Lower, Hist. of Suss.* ii, 211.

⁷³ *Chich. Dioc. Cal.*

⁷⁴ *Add. MS.* 39469, fol. 821.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

WORTH

Orde (xi cent.)

Worth is a large parish on the northern border of the county and the north-east corner of the rape, having an area of 13,331 acres. The main road from Brighton to London runs up the western border of the parish, and the Southern Railway line parallel to it about 1½ miles to the east. Three Bridges station is on this line, where a road comes east from Crawley, and is a junction for lines to Horsham and East Grinstead. On the branch line to East Grinstead the stations of Rowfant and Grange Road are also in Worth parish. Woolborough Farm is in the north-western corner of the parish.

Three-quarters of a mile east of Three Bridges station, at Pound Hill, the greater part of the village is situated, and here the eastern road is crossed by another running north from Balcombe to Redhill. The church of Worth, with a few houses, lies ½ mile south of Pound Hill and is reached by two roads. Crabbet Park is situated in the north-eastern angle of the cross-roads at Pound Hill, and Worth Park is about a mile to the north.

South of the church the ground dips to a stream, to a level of about 250 ft., and then rises towards the Forest. Worth Forest and Old House Warren lie on the east side of the railway line and climb to a ridge of 500 ft., on which Paddockhurst is built. Tilgate Forest, on the west side of the railway, rises to about 440 ft. in the south-western corner of the parish. The Stanford Brook here forms the boundary. The soil is sand, with a subsoil of loam, sand, and stone.

A road running east along the forest ridge from Paddockhurst leads to the village of Turner's Hill, with the Church of St. Leonard, a separate ecclesiastical parish since 1895, with an area of about 4,000 acres, at an altitude of 585 ft. Here a number of roads cross, from Lindfield to Caterham, from Handcross to East Grinstead, and another coming from Three Bridges. The village lies 1½ miles south of Grange Road station. The soil here is sandy loam, with a subsoil of sandstone. Fen Place is east of it, and Burleigh House near the eastern boundary of the parish, just south of the railway.

North of Turner's Hill and beyond the railway is Crawley Down, with All Saints Church, a separate ecclesiastical parish since 1862, with an area of 4,550 acres. It is 3 miles east of Worth village and close to Grange Road station. The village is upon a triangle of roads, with the church in the southern angle, from which point a road leads south across the railway towards Turner's Hill.

On the northern edge of Worth parish is Copthorne, constituted an ecclesiastical parish in 1881, with the church of St. John the Evangelist. It is 2½ miles north-east of Three Bridges station. It has an area of about six square miles. The kennels of the Crowhurst otterhounds are at Berrylands. Farther west along the northern boundary of the parish is the hamlet of Tinsley Green, between the main line and the road to London.

There are Countess of Huntingdon chapels at Copthorne, Crawley Down, and Turner's Hill, and a Methodist chapel at Crawley Down.

Rowfant is a stone-fronted building facing south. The western half has a symmetrical Elizabethan front¹ with a central porch and two gabled bay-windows, the main wall being on one plane. But the house was originally a timber-framed building of about the end of the 15th century. The south range had a hall of four 10½-ft. bays and at least a west solar wing, behind which was a narrower and lower wing, making the plan L-shaped. This was all that was retained by the Elizabethan builder when he skilfully imposed his symmetrical stone front on to the earlier structure. He appears to have left the other sides unaltered, and it was not till 1759 that the west side was faced with brick and probably lengthened northwards. The eastern half of the main part, matching the Elizabethan front, was added in the 19th century, with additions at the back.

The main lines of the plan include a middle entrance hall embracing two bays of the former hall, a gable-fronted east wing (with a square bay-window) on the site of the two eastern bays of the hall, now the drawing-room, and a slightly wider gable-front covering the original west wing and containing a sitting-room. The wing behind this contains the present dining-room.

The south front is of ashlar with a plinth, a moulded string-course at the first-floor level, on the whole front, and also at the second-floor level of the bays. The two-storied porch and both bay-windows have gable-heads with corbelled kneelers and ball-finials. The slopes of the gable-heads of the bay-windows are continued down the main walls to the main eaves, and have moulded barge-boards instead of copings to the lower parts. The west side of the western gable has, above it, the brick return-wall of the heightened west wall. The entrance to the porch has plain chamfered stone jambs and square head: the inner doorway is of oak. The windows also have plain chamfered jambs, heads, and mullions. Rain-water heads are dated 1759. The roofs are covered with Horsham slabs. The chimney-stack above the east side of the drawing-room has three diagonal square shafts of brick. The west front of the older part is of 1759 brickwork, and is symmetrical. The middle part (the wall of the dining-room) is recessed slightly but has a large three-sided bay-window of one story. The 18th-century windows were tall and narrow with flat arches, but in the upper story stone-mullioned windows were substituted in the 19th century and a range of 'Dutch' gables raised above the second floor.

The chief evidence of 15th-century origin is contained in the roof-space above the entrance hall and east drawing-room, where there is a range of four king-post trusses, 10½ ft. apart, dividing the length into four bays. The king-posts carry four-way struts below a central purlin and collar-beams. The fifth, easternmost, truss disappeared with the Elizabethan alterations. The first-floor ceilings are raised above the original tie-beams, which are seen below them in the upper chambers. Those below the westernmost and the next two king-posts are in place, and are highly cambered beams, hollow-chamfered, with curved brackets under their ends: some of the brackets have

¹ Probably built by Robert Whitfield, an iron-master who had Rowfant forge in 1574. The Whitfields were succeeded

(c. 1635) by the Goodwins, from whom the estate passed in the 18th century to the Bethunes; it was bought in 1848 by Sir

Curtis Lampson, bart., grandfather of the present owner: *Sussex County Mag.* viii, 729-30.

been removed. The beam that comes over the middle of the chamber over the entrance hall, being only about 8 ft. above the floor, has had its under-face hacked away to get rid of the camber and make it approximately level, probably for an 18th-century plaster or wood casing: there is a later post under the middle of it with a curved bracket. The king-post that comes over the middle of the drawing-room is supported on a beam that runs east and west as a tie for the Elizabethan cross-wing. It is cambered and has the mortices for former end-brackets, and is clearly one of the 15th-century tie-beams re-set. The two north story-posts at the angles of the hall are seen both on the first floor and ground floor. The west wall of the hall, next to the west wing, shows in its west face a heavy wall-beam, of which any mouldings are hidden on the hall side by panelling. The west wing, which was the solar, has had its roof altered for an attic chamber, but on the first floor the original tie-beam of the middle truss is left in place with its east post; both have mortices for former brackets, and the beam is cambered but has had its soffit cut away like the others: the floor of this bedroom is 1 ft. 9 in. above that over the entrance hall. It is probable that the ground-floor room and this room were equal in length (north to south) to the width of the hall until 1759, when they were reduced by some 6 ft. to their present size and the chimney-stack between them and the dining-room was rebuilt, the ground floor being heightened at the same time. The dining-room wing also has lost its original timbers in the attic, but retains two of the original tie-beams in the first-floor chambers. The floor-level of these is now about 3 ft. above that over the entrance hall, and in the north wall over the dining-room is a cambered beam, 5 ft. 5 in. above the floor, hollow-chamfered, and retaining its eastern curved bracket: it has a closed partition below it and may be the original end wall of the wing; the north face of the beam is scored with chases for the studding of 18th-century framing, now replaced by plastered framing under the beam. In the southern bedroom, over the dining-room, is a beam 15 in. wide, cambered and morticed for brackets, but cut away below, as the others, and raised some 2 ft. in modern times. The roof of the back wing has also been heightened, as the tie-beam in the north wall is now well below the eaves.

The entrance hall has a north fire-place of stone dated 1597. It has moulded jambs and a four-centred arch in a square head; the spandrels are carved with dogs' heads and the initials HN and AN; the face of the mantel is carved with roses and other patterns. This and a fire-place in the sitting-room with the same initials were brought from elsewhere about fifty years ago.² The hall is lined with modern panelling, but the doorway into the west sitting-room has a 16th-century moulded oak frame and eight-panelled door. The sitting-room fire-place, just mentioned, has base-stops to the jambs curiously carved with human faces and foliage ornament. It is flanked by quasi-Ionic pilasters supporting a fluted frieze and carved shelf. The room has a high dado of early-17th-century panelling. A deep recess east of the fire-place extends to the original length of the room. The ceiling has a chamfered beam and original wide flat joists. The drawing-room has a small stone Tudor fire-place in the east wall of the south half, with a fluted frieze. The room has a high dado of Elizabethan panelling, some of it modern copy. The ceiling-beams are modern.

The room was lengthened about 3 ft. at the north end, for access to the modern east half of the house, but the original corner-post of the former hall was left in place in the east wall. The square bay-windows in the south front of this and the west room are 5 ft. deep. The dining-room contains no ancient features: it is lighted by the middle bay-window of the west front. The upper rooms have modern fire-places but contain some early-17th-century panelling.

Behind the entrance hall, in the angle with the wing, is the main staircase. It is remodelled, but the walls housing it are Elizabethan in the upper part and show an east gable-head with a moulded barge-board and pendant; the lower part has been altered to make a larger half-landing in the east face. The staircase rises only to the first floor: above it is a bedroom (behind the gable): this has a blocked Elizabethan window of five lights in its north wall, with moulded oak mullions. The bathroom next north, which covers the window, is modern, but the lower parts of this section show some 16th- or 17th-century timber-framing with brick infilling in the north wall next to a modern staircase.

Crabbet Park is a large mansion in the Classic Renaissance style of the late 18th century, with walls of stone with balustraded parapets and middle pediments. The roofs are covered with Horsham slabs. The front entrance on the north side has a round pediment, and the windows are tall and narrow. On the east side is a portico of half-round plan. West of the house is a large pavilion, having red brick walls and a cemented colonnade and portico on the north front: the parapets have balustrades.

Street House by the north-west gateway to the churchyard is of 17th century or earlier origin, but has been much altered inside. The walls are of timber-framing largely covered with weather-boarding: the roof is covered with Horsham slabs, and above it is a central chimney-stack of thin bricks. One door in the west front is ancient: the room inside it has exposed chamfered ceiling-joists. The building is said to have been formerly an inn and this was the tap-room.

Frogs Hole Farm, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south-west of the church, is a house of c. 1540. The timber-framing is exposed at the back, showing curved braces to three bays, and one original three-light window with diamond-shaped mullions. The chimney-stack is at the north end of the house and has a large fire-place.

Standing Hall Farm, 1 mile south-east of the church, is partly an early-17th-century house of three bays, facing north and south, with a later-17th-century bay at the east end. The walls are of square timber-framing, the roof tiled: the central chimney-stack is of the local rebated type.

Cold Harbour Farm, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south-east of Standing Hall, is a timber-framed house dating from c. 1600. It has chamfered joists to the ceilings of both stories, and a central chimney-stack with a large fire-place of stone. The front has the lower story of brick and the upper tile-hung. The roof is partly thatched and partly tiled: the chimney-stack above the roof is modern.

A cottage 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of the church, north of the Turner's Hill road, is of about the same period. It faces south and has timber-framed walls to both stories, and a tiled roof. It has open-timbered ceilings with chamfered and square joists and a central chimney-stack with a wide fire-place and the usual rebated shaft of thin bricks.

² Ibid. 726.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

At Turner's Hill most of the houses are of the 18th century or later, but The Crown Hotel, an old coaching inn, has timber-framing, ceiling-beams, &c., inside, which point to a late-16th-century origin, with later lengthenings to east and west. The central chimney-stack has a 10-ft.-wide fire-place in which is an ancient iron crane and apparatus for a turnspit. 'The Old Manse' on the other side of the road is largely modern, but has an old tile-hung wing above which is a late-16th-century chimney-stack with V-shaped pilasters.

Miswell House, formerly Miswell Farm, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the north, is of two parallel ranges; the front one is modern; the other and shorter one is a 15th-century building with Elizabethan fire-places. The remains appear to be one 12-ft. bay, forming one half of the original hall, into which a 16th-century floor had been inserted, and a two-story wing south of it, 12 ft. wide, now used as kitchen and scullery. The typical king-post roof construction remains in the upper story, and the lower story of the wing (the kitchen) has wide flat ceiling-joists. The walls are timber-framed with curved braces and square panels, and the roof is covered with Horsham slabs. A square bay-window was added at the north end in the 16th century, and the chimney-stack then added at the east side of the hall-bay now forms an internal stack for the whole house: on the ground floor it has a west fire-place 8 ft. wide with an oak lintel inscribed with the precept in black-letter capitals: 'Who wasteth wanteth who saveth maketh.' The upper fire-place also has its lintel carved with floral patterns and also once had an inscription on it, which was cut away by a former tenant; there are other carvings on the timbers of this room (the upper part of the hall), but these appear to be modern.

'Yew Tree Cottage', about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of Miswell House, is now two tenements. The southern is comparatively modern, but the northern dates from c. 1500 or perhaps earlier. The original framing with curved struts to the angle-posts is exposed inside. The northern of the two rooms of the lower story has fairly large ceiling-joists, laid flatwise. The southern room has stop-chamfered joists, and across the south end is a heavy chamfered beam which divided it from the early Tudor chimney-bay. This is now partly filled in with an early-17th-century chimney-stack with an 8-ft. fire-place, the ceiling of the rest of the bay being plastered. The upper rooms have plastered ceilings hiding the roof construction. In the back wall of the north bay is an original window of four lights with diamond-shaped oak mullions. The roof is tiled and has a hipped north end: the chimney-stack of 17th-century bricks is of cross plan.

Sandhill, east of Yew Tree Cottage, is a 17th-century or earlier building, facing west. The front is of three bays; the northernmost bay is of 17th-century thin bricks to the lower story, the upper has old timber-framing with brick infilling, some of it set herringbone-wise; the other two bays retain the story-posts but have been otherwise faced with 18th-century brickwork. North-west of the house is a 16th-century barn of timber-framing, now converted into a hall: it is of five bays and has the original trusses with curved braces below the tie-beams, and the side-purlins have curved wind-braces.

Sandhill Gate Farm, about 350 yards to the north, is a 17th-century house of timber-framing, weather-boarded in the south front but exposed at the back. The roof is tiled: the chimney-stack is at the west end and has a rebated shaft. Inside is a wide fire-place and next south of it is the original winding staircase, with an oak central newel, leading from ground floor to attic. The rooms have stop-chamfered ceiling-beams and joists. In the back wall is an original upper window with moulded frame and mullions.

Hophurst, about 1 mile north-east of Crawley Down Church, is a late-16th-century house facing south-east: it has a cross-wing at the north-east end, flush with the main wall in the front, but with a projecting half-gable head on a moulded bressummer and shaped brackets: this wall shows square-panelled timber-framing. At the back the wing projects slightly and has a half-gable head. A fine central chimney-stack of the usual rebated style contains wide fire-places, and there are open-timbered ceilings. One original window remains in the south-east front with diamond-shaped mullions.

Gibbshaven, north of Hophurst, is a 17th-century timber-framed house and has a rebated central chimney-stack. A lower wing at the back joins the house up with a square granary. 'Smugglers' Farm', about a mile west of Gibbshaven on the north side of the road from Copthorne to East Grinstead, is of the same period.

At Wakehams Green is a late-17th-century farmhouse with brick and tile-hung walls and a large square central chimney with round-headed panels in the sides; and at Tinsley Green is a contemporary timber-framed cottage with a tiled roof and a brick chimney-stack at one end. On the Crawley road west of Pound Hill are two thatched cottages of the 17th century, one with timber-framed walls and the other of brick and stone.

WORTH, which in the 11th century *MANORS* was in Surrey, in Reigate Hundred, was held before the Conquest by Oswol, of King Edward the Confessor, for half a hide. In 1086 it was held by Siward, of Richard de Tonbridge,³ the ancestor of the Clares, Earls of Gloucester. Subsequently, however, it came into the hands of the Earls Warenne, probably at the time of the creation of the earldom of Surrey in 1088 or 1089. In 1244 Worth, with other fees, was assigned in dower to Maud widow of Earl William de Warenne,⁴ and the overlordship thereafter descended with the Rape and Barony of Lewes, passing in 1439 to the Bergavenny branch, along with the rest of the fees formerly held by the Plaiz family.⁵

The first subtenant of the manor to be mentioned is Hugh de Plaiz, who died in 1244. From this time the manor descended, with the manor of Iford in Swanborough Hundred (q.v.), to Roger Lewknor, who died in 1543.⁶ Worth was then evidently apportioned to the heirs of his eldest daughter Joan or Jane, who married as her second husband Sir Christopher Pickering, and whose daughter Anne, together with her second husband Sir Henry Knyvett, sold it in 1545 to Thomas Michell.⁷ The latter died childless in 1551 and in 1553 his nephew and heir Edmond Michell⁸ conveyed the manor to John More,⁹ from whose widow

³ *V.C.H. Surr.* i, 316; *ibid. Suss.* i, 451 b.

⁴ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 336; *Excerpta Fin.* i, 421, 427.

⁵ Cf. *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiv, 190; *ibid.*

xxxiii, 71.

⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), lxxv, 48.

⁷ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 150-1; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 505; *Recov. R. East.* 37

Hen. VIII, ro. 142.

⁸ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 265-7.

⁹ Feet of F. Suss. Trin. 1 and 2 Phil. and Mary; Add. MS. 39504, fol. 429.

Agnes it passed in 1557 to their son Edward More.¹⁰ Edward was succeeded before 1565 by another John More, who in 1571 settled the manor on himself with remainder to his son Edward.¹¹ Sir Edward More was in possession in 1602,¹² settled Worth in 1613 on his eldest son Adrian¹³ (who predeceased him) and Adrian's wife Anne daughter of Sir Nicholas Parker, and died in April 1623, when it passed to his infant grandson Edward son of his younger son William.¹⁴ This Edward More was dealing with Worth in 1643 and 1649,¹⁵ although Adrian's widow Anne still held it for life, and as she next married Sir John Smith, a recusant, the estate was sequestered.¹⁶ Anne died in 1651 and the sequestration was discharged in 1652 on the petition of Edward More.¹⁷ Subsequently, at the end of December 1657, the manor was conveyed by Edward More to Sir John Smith, who continued to hold it until his death in 1662.¹⁸ His son John¹⁹ succeeded him and effected several mortgages to pay off his debts, finally selling his estates in 1698 to Leonard Gale of Crawley.²⁰ After his death in 1750 it was held

their daughter Judith Anne Dorothea, Baroness Wentworth, the present owner.

The manor of *CRABKET* had its origin in one knight's fee held by Richard de Plaiz.²⁴ The overlordship appears to have descended with the Bergavenny share of the barony. Lands called Crabbetts were held in June 1504 by military service,²⁵ and in 1589 Edward More was holding the manor.²⁶ Sir Edward More, described as a free tenant of the manor of Keymer, held Crabbett in 1624.²⁷ Crabbett then followed the descent of Worth,²⁸ being bought in 1698 by Leonard Gale.²⁹ Crabbett Park is now the residence of Baroness Wentworth, lady of the manor of Worth.

A manor of *WORTH*, closely connected with the forest of that name, was held in demesne in 1285 by the Earl of Surrey;³⁰ and in 1304, after the death of Earl John de Warenne, the issues of the forest include 66s. 3d. from 'perquisites of the court'.³¹ The manor-house probably served as a hunting lodge, letters being dated there in 1318 and 1320 by John de Warenne,³² and in July 1384 by Richard II.³³ In 1439, when the forest was divided between the three heirs to the barony, each was to have a share of the manor of Worth, 'if there be any beyond that forest'.³⁴ John, Duke of Norfolk, died in 1476 seised of the manor of Worth, valued at 10s.,³⁵ and it was among the manors surrendered by his widow to the Crown;³⁶ but after that no more is heard of it, and the manorial centre of the forest was apparently shifted to Highley in Balcombe (q.v.).

The *FOREST OF WORTH*, which extended over the parishes of Worth, Crawley, Ardingly, Slaugham, and Balcombe, was part of the Warenne possessions since the Conquest.³⁷ It descended with the rape³⁸ and underwent the same partitions. In 1439 it was agreed that Edmund Lenthall's share should be the first third part of the forest, beginning in the outer eastern side and stretching westwards. The Duke of Norfolk's strip came next, and finally that of Elizabeth wife of the Lord Bergavenny.³⁹ Eventually the forest, like the rape, was held by the Lords Bergavenny, the Earls of Derby, and the Earls of Arundel. By this time, however, that half of the forest of Worth held by the Bergavenny family was known as the forests of Tilgate and Strudgate.⁴⁰ The remainder, under the name of the forest of Worth, was held, late in the 16th century, half by Henry, Earl of Derby, and half by Philip, Earl of Arundel, and descended with their shares of the manor of Highley (q.v.),⁴¹ to which it pertained.

TILGATE is said to have been sold by Edward, Lord Bergavenny, by the end of the 16th century to Sir Walter Covert and Sir Edward Culpeper,⁴² but



MORE. *Sable a swan argent within a border engrailed or.*



BLUNT. *Party chevron-wise barry nebuly or and sable in chief and gules a pegasus argent in base.*

in common by his three daughters, Sarah, afterwards wife of Samuel Blunt of Horsham, Elizabeth wife of Henry Humphrey, and Philippa wife of James Clitherow, who appear in possession of third parts of Worth from 1750 to 1761.²¹ Two of the sisters, including Sarah Blunt, having died by 1762, their lands were divided by Act of Parliament into three lots, and the manor and forest lands of Worth, with Crabbett (q.v.), were assigned to Samuel Blunt as representing his wife Sarah, who had died in 1758, leaving a daughter Charlotte. Samuel married as his second wife Winifred daughter and heiress of Robert Scawen of Reigate Manor,²² and from them Worth descended to Francis Scawen Blunt, who died in 1842,²³ and has remained in that family. Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, who died in 1922, married in 1869 Lady Anne Isabella King-Noel, later Baroness Wentworth, and Worth descended to

¹⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 71.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, xx, 505; iii, 27.

¹² *Ibid.* xx, 505.

¹³ Add. MS. 39504, fol. 431; Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, *Hist. of the Crabbet Estate in Sussex* (printed for private circulation, 1917), i, 22.

¹⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccxcix, 155.

¹⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 506; *Hist. of Crabbet Estate*, i, 29, 32-5; *Recov. R. Mich.* 1649, ro. 169.

¹⁶ Add. MS. 39504, fol. 431; *Hist. of Crabbet Estate*, i, 19-24 (marriage settlement, Feb. 1612-13).

¹⁷ Add. MS. 39504, fol. 431; *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* iv, 2947.

¹⁸ *Hist. of Crabbet*, i, 38-42, 51.

¹⁹ Whether by Anne or his second wife Katherine does not seem clear; *ibid.* 42-3,

51; Add. MS. 5684, fol. 175.

²⁰ *Ibid.* 47-67, *passim*; *Recov. R. Mich.* 26 Chas. II, ro. 185; Add. MS. 5684, fol. 175.

²¹ *Hist. of Crabbet*, i, 69, 71-4. Cf. Add. MS. 39504, fol. 431; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xii, 45-60.

²² *Ibid.*; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xii, 59; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 355; *Recov. R. Mich.* 30, Geo. II, ro. 393; *Hist. of Crabbet*, i, 98.

²³ *Ibid.* i, 102, 115-17; *ibid.* p. v (Preface by the late Wilfrid Scawen Blunt).

²⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 194; cf. Add. MS. 5683, fol. 85.

²⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 33.

²⁶ *Ibid.* xxxiii, 110. Cf. Add. MS. 39504, fol. 431. He is described as Sir Edward and is said to have inherited Crabbett on the death of his father in 1582:

Hist. of Crabbet, i, 6.

²⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 33.

²⁸ *Ibid.* 194; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxi, 14.

²⁹ *Ibid.* xii, 52-60.

³⁰ *Feud. Aids*, v, 129.

³¹ *Esch. Accts.* 33 Edw. I.

³² *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.*), i, 59.

³³ *Cal. Pat.* 1381-5, p. 443.

³⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 185-9.

³⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. 17 Edw. IV, 58.

³⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 3212.

³⁷ *V.C.H. Sus.* ii, 310-11.

³⁸ Cf. *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (*Rec. Com.*)

750; *Cal. Pat.* 1396-7, p. 194.

³⁹ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.*,

xxxiv), 185-6, 188, 189.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* 150. Cf. *Pl.-N. Sus.* ii, 283, 254, 257.

⁴¹ In Balcombe parish.

⁴² *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 74.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

Sir Walter died seised of the whole of it in 1632, holding it of the king in chief by knight service.⁴³ It was described at this time as a capital messuage and farm,⁴⁴ and is first called a manor in 1647.⁴⁵ It subsequently descended for a time with the manor of Slaugham (q.v.), passing from the Coverts to the Sergisons.⁴⁶ Before 1870 it had been acquired by John Nix,⁴⁷ in whose family it has since remained, the present owner being Mr. Charles George Ashburner Nix.

STRUDGATE, of which early tenants may have been Richard de la Strode in 1278⁴⁸ and Richard atte Strode in 1327,⁴⁹ was sold by Edward, Lord Bergavenny, to Sir Edward Culpeper of Wakehurst,⁵⁰ who, with his father Thomas Culpeper, had previously had a lease of it. It bordered upon Wakehurst to the north.⁵¹ Strudgate remained in the possession of the Culpepers until 1694, when it was sold with Wakehurst (q.v.)⁵² to Dennis Liddell,⁵³ and continued with that manor until 1817. It was then sold, after the death of Rear-Admiral Joseph Peyton, to Charles Wetherell.⁵⁴

John de Warrenne claimed free warren **PARKS** and liberties in his park of Worth in 1279,⁵⁵ and it is said to have descended with the barony.⁵⁶ Two parks were among the appurtenances of the manor of Worth in 1397 and were granted to the Duke of Norfolk.⁵⁷

In 1326 Ralph de Cobham died seised of a park in Worth consisting of 232½ acres of pasture and moor, newly enclosed without the assent of the tenants.⁵⁸ In 1368 his son Sir John de Cobham quitclaimed a 'manor' of Worth to Edward III.⁵⁹ This may or may not have any connexion with the **LITTLE PARK** of Worth which Henry Lechford left to his son Richard in 1567.⁶⁰ In 1615 it is said to have been owned by Nicholas Threelle;⁶¹ but Drew Stapley (son of William Stapley of Hickstead) died in possession of it in 1637, when it passed to his daughter Elizabeth wife of Thomas Shirley of Wiston.⁶² It remained in the Shirley family until late in the 18th century.⁶³

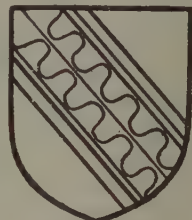
In about 1835 a farm of some 300 acres in Worth, called the Great Park and Little Park, was owned by Mr. White of Horsham.⁶⁴ The late Sir Francis A. Montefiore owned the Worth Park estate, which included the residence of Worth Park until that was sold for a school in 1920.⁶⁵ In May 1936, after Sir Francis's death, the greater part of the estate was sold by order of the Public Trustee, his executor.

The manor of **WOOLBOROUGH** (Wolbergh, xiv cent.) was held in the early 17th century of the

manor of Cuckfield for rent of 6s. 8d.⁶⁶ A William de Wolbergh is mentioned in 1296,⁶⁷ and Thomas de Wolbergh in 1327,⁶⁸ and in 1344 this or another Thomas, with Anne his wife, settled property in Worth, perhaps identical with the manor, on themselves and their sons.⁶⁹ Thomas de Wolbergh died in 1350 and his property passed to his son John.⁷⁰ Wolborough is first referred to as a manor in 1488, when Elizabeth Uvedale, widow, died seised of it, leaving it to her son Robert.⁷¹ Nothing further is heard of it until 1533, when it appears to have been in the possession of Thomas Chapman.⁷² Before 1570 it had come into the hands of Thomas Michell,⁷³ who in 1574 conveyed it to Henry Bowyer.⁷⁴ The latter died in 1589,⁷⁵ and his son Sir Henry in 1606, when Wolborough passed to his cousin William Bowyer.⁷⁶ William's son John succeeded his father in 1632⁷⁷ and in 1653 conveyed the manor to Walter Hendley,⁷⁸ grandson of Sir Henry Bowyer's sister. Sir Walter evidently conveyed it to his daughter Mary and her husband Sir William More, bart., for they were in possession of it in 1670, and just previous to Sir William's death in 1684,⁷⁹ but after that the descent is lost sight of.

The reputed manor of **BURLEIGH ARCHES** appears to have been carved out of the manor of South Malling. Land at 'Burhlee' was given in about 765 by Aldwulf, king of the south Saxons, to Earl Hunlabe for the building of a monastery.⁸⁰

In 1066 'Berchellie' was held by the archbishop in right of his monastery of Canterbury, but by 1086 it was held by a certain William under the Count of Mortain.⁸¹ It must soon have been recovered, and perhaps remained in the hands of the archbishops, as it derived its descriptive name from them, as members of the College of South Malling, the estate being subsequently part of the canons' manor of South Malling.⁸² After the suppression of the college, Burleigh Arches seems to have been assimilated with the so-called manor of **CLARKES**, lying in Worth, West Hoathly, and East Grinstead, which Richard and Thomas Michelborne settled in 1571 for life on Thomas Whiting (possibly the son of their sister Margaret) and his wife Joan.⁸³ Richard Michelborne died seised of the estate in 1588, and bequeathed it to Ann Beard for her life.⁸⁴ Meanwhile, however, John Byshe had been holding property



BOWYER. Or a bend wavy cottised sable.

⁴³ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 147. His wife's grandfather Thomas Shurley had died in 1579 seised of 60 acres of land and tenements in Worth called Tillgates: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 133. Cf. Comber, op. cit. (*Ardingly*), 183; (*Lewes*), 253.

⁴⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccclxvii, 187; cccclxv, 55.

⁴⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 402.

⁴⁶ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 147; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 402, 438-9; Coll. Deeds, C. 803, Lewes. It was estimated at 1500 acres in 1835: Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 266.

⁴⁷ Lower, *Hist. of Sussex*, ii, 273.

⁴⁸ Assize R. *Suss.* 7 Edw. I, m. 9.

⁴⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 181.

⁵⁰ Ibid. xxxiv, 74; xiv, 317.

⁵¹ G. Loder, *Wakehurst Place*, 48.

⁵² In Ardingly parish. Strudgate Farm is still in Ardingly parish.

⁵³ Loder, op. cit. 67. ⁵⁴ Ibid. 101.

⁵⁵ *Plac. de Quo Warr.* (Rec. Com.), 750.

⁵⁶ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 166. Cf. *Cal. Pat.* 1272-81, p. 414; 1292-1301, pp. 317, 472, 545, 552; 1301-7, p. 94, &c.

⁵⁷ Ibid. 1396-9, pp. 209-10.

⁵⁸ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* vi, 703; Add. MS. 5684, fol. 166.

⁵⁹ *Cal. Pat.* 1361-4, pp. 350, 355, 378, 392; *Cal. Close*, 1360-4, p. 514.

⁶⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 26. He held it of the Duke of Norfolk. Cf. Add. MS. 5684, fol. 176.

⁶¹ Ibid. ⁶² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 985; Comber, op. cit. (*Lewes*), 262.

⁶³ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 167.

⁶⁴ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 267.

⁶⁵ *Ex inf. Messrs.* Knight, Frank & Rutley.

⁶⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 18.

⁶⁷ *Pl.-N. Sussex*, ii, 283.

⁶⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 176.

⁶⁹ Feet of F. *Suss. Hil.* 18 Edw. III.

⁷⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. 24 Edw. III (ist

nos.), 91.

⁷¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 1043.

⁷² *Recov. R. Hil.* 25 Hen. VIII, ro. 357.

⁷³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 98.

⁷⁴ Ibid. xx, 498.

⁷⁵ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 26.

⁷⁶ Ibid. 27; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccxlii, 173; Add. MS. 39504, fol. 425.

⁷⁷ Comber, op. cit. 27; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 498. ⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁹ Ibid.; G.E.C. *Baronetage*, ii, 175.

⁸⁰ Birch, *Cart. Sax.* i, 197; *P.C.H. Sass.* ii, 117-18; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxx, 184-5.

⁸¹ *P.C.H. Sass.* i, 418 b.; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxx, 190, liii, 274-5, xxi, 160.

⁸² Ibid. lxx, 190-1. Lands in Worth were held by the college in 1535: *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 337.

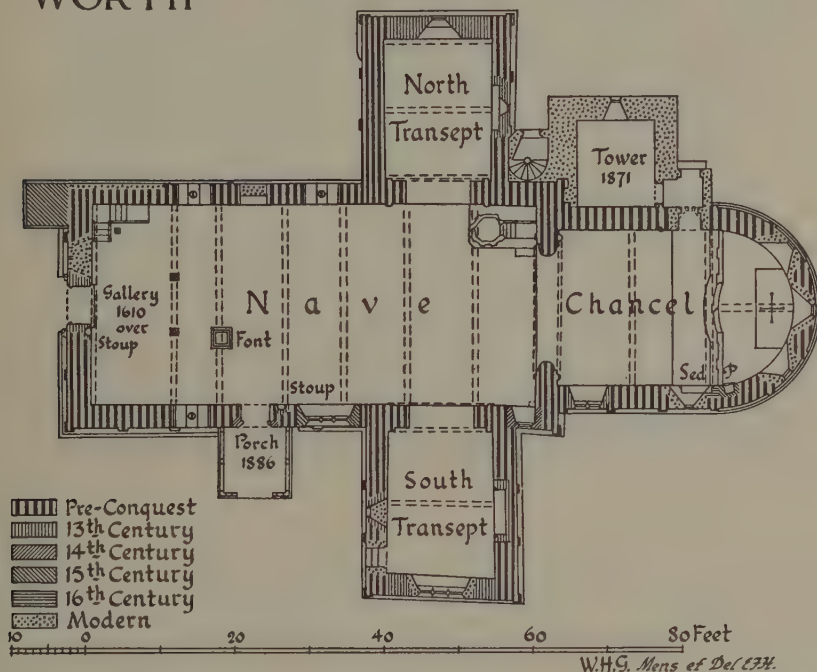
⁸³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 103; Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 259.

⁸⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 725; cf. *ibid.* iii, 101.

called Burley, in Worth, at the time of his death in 1583.⁸⁵ This was held of the Dean and Chapter of South Malling, 'now suppressed', in socage as of the manor of South Malling.⁸⁶ He also had held a mesuage in which he lived, called The Bryddes, in Worth, of Richard Michelborne as of his manor of Clarkes.⁸⁷ In 1619 a property known as *CLARKES alias BURLEY ARCHES* was bequeathed by Richard Infield to his eldest son Richard.⁸⁸ Catherine daughter of Joan and Richard Compton, and grand-daughter of the above Richard Michelborne, had married Richard Infield of Gravetye in West Hoathly, so that it seems

The church is a remarkable example of a pre-Conquest building of cross-plan dating practically from one period. Whether it can be assigned to an earlier date than the first half of the 11th century is doubtful; while it presents the characteristic bays divided by pilasters, there are no traces of the usual 'long and short' work except in the varying heights of the stone courses in the pilasters. None of the pilasters is carried higher than the intermediate string-course at a little more than half-height of the walls. Above the string-course the nave retains three of the typical baluster windows of the period. They were not visible when S. Walford

PARISH CHURCH of ST. NICHOLAS WORTH



likely that the property had come through the Michelbornes.⁸⁹ Richard Infield the younger died in 1625 and this property evidently descended with Gravetye (q.v.), appearing as the manor and farm called Clerks *alias* Burley Arches, in the possession of Edward Payne of East Grinstead, who died in 1660.⁹⁰ He bequeathed it to a younger son Charles,⁹¹ who in 1676 made a settlement of it, as the manor of Burleigh Arches, upon Robert and Henry Payne, probably his brothers, and the heirs of Robert.⁹² All the brothers were dead by 1708.⁹³ In 1776 the manor was held by Gibbs Crawford, who had married Anne Payne, and it apparently descended in that family.⁹⁴

The parish church of *ST. NICHOLAS* consists of an apsidal chancel, rectangular nave, and north and south transepts or chapels near the east end of the nave. North of the chancel is a tower added in 1871, with a spire, and the south doorway has a porch added in 1886.

described the church in 1856,⁹⁵ the walls being then covered with plaster inside and out. The north wall of the nave has lost its pilasters entirely, the whole wall having been rebuilt, or at least refaced, below the string-course, with medieval ashlar, and it is probable that both end walls of the transepts were reconstructed perhaps as early as the 13th century, losing both pilasters and string-courses: the slightest of traces remain in the north transept of one of the former intermediate pilasters. In Walford's time the apse was heavily buttressed, there being as many as six, three of them of brick. These were removed when the church was restored in 1871, and of necessity the pilasters had to be restored, while new windows were inserted in the upper half of the wall. The ancient round-headed doorways remain in the side walls of the nave, tall and narrow openings, now recesses. A late-13th-century doorway of less height was inserted in the south side and a similar doorway in the west wall appears to have

⁸⁵ Ibid.

⁸⁶ Ibid.

⁸⁷ Ibid.; Comber, op. cit. 67.

⁸⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 588.

⁸⁹ Comber, op. cit. 242, 260. Richard Michelborne the younger died in 1607:

ibid.

⁹⁰ Ibid. 283; P.C.C. 292 Nabbs.

⁹¹ Ibid.

⁹² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 78; Comber, op.

cit. 283, 285.

⁹³ Ibid.

⁹⁴ According to survey of their lands made in 1776, and until recently in the possession of the late Rev. G. P. Crawford: *Suss. N. & Q.* i, 88. Cf. Burke, *Landed Gentry* (1855), 251.

⁹⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* viii, 235.

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been a new insertion of that time. There is a small window at the east end of the south wall of the 14th century, and the large south window is of the 15th century. Another 15th-century window, mentioned by Walford, in the apse, was removed at the restoration.

The chancel (33 ft. by 21½ ft.) has a half-round apsidal end with three modern single lights of 12th-century character. There are also one north and two south similar windows. Below the western south window is a 13th-century window of two lancets with a sunk spandrel in a semicircular head and with a segmental-pointed rear-arch. The jambs are rebated for shutters. In the north wall is a modern archway to the organ chamber under the tower, and a doorway to the vestry below it. The chancel-arch has half-round responds, 3 ft. wide, against square reveals flanked by pilasters, square on the west face and half-round on the east. The responds have square capitals, rounded on the under edges, with grooved and rounded abaci. The pilasters meet the lower sides of the capitals. The responds lean outwards, but there seems to have been a later repair of the pilasters to make them vertical. The head is round, of one square order and with a square archivolt. Owing to the spread of the responds, it is depressed to less than the true half circle.

The walls are of an irregular wide-jointed rubble containing much ironstone, and have a plinth or footings of two rough square stages. Below the window sills is a plain string-course, and below this the wall surface is divided into bays by roughly dressed square pilasters, six bays to the apse and three to the south wall. The rubble above the string-course is smoother than that below, probably the result of the renovation of 1924. This date appears on the rain-water heads below the eaves guttering. The roof is modern and has three tie-beams.

In the south wall of the apse is a 15th-century piscina with a trefoiled pointed arch in a square head and a quatrefoil basin. Next west is a recess with a Tudor arch in a square head perhaps intended for a sedile.

The nave (60 ft. by 27 ft.) has an archway into each of the transepts, with plain square responds flanked by square pilasters of rough-tooled ashlar, with square capitals and abaci, and round heads with plain square archivolts. The reveals, pilasters, and capitals have been largely restored in the south arch and partly in the north arch. Some of the stones in the reveals are very large.

In the north wall, high up, are two windows, each of two round-headed lights divided by a round baluster mullion: these have square capitals and bases. The jambs are also square, with square imposts. The balusters and much of the other stone-work of the windows have been restored: the arches appear to be ancient, except that of the west light of the western window. In the south wall is a similar window opposite the western north window, also largely restored. The other original window was displaced by a large window of the 15th century: this is of three cinque-foiled lights and vertical tracery in a two-centred head with a moulded label and a chamfered pointed rear-arch. East of the transept-archway in the south wall is a 14th-century single light with a trefoiled ogee head. A tall, narrow round-headed doorway remains in either wall. The north doorway is blocked but forms a recess inside, with ancient square jambs and square imposts. Externally the line of its west jamb is visible and most of the inner ring of its arch and part of the outer ring show

in the wall surface. The south doorway is also blocked, but set in it, much lower down, is the present late-13th-century south doorway, with chamfered jambs and pointed head and an external hood-mould without stops. In the west wall above a similar doorway is a window of three cinque-foiled lights and tracery of c. 1300 in a pointed head with an external hood-mould having return-ends. In the gable-head above is a plain bulls-eye light.

The south and west walls are mostly of rubble, similar to the chancel, but in the west half of the south wall are two short courses in which the stones are set aslope in the fashion of the later herring-bone work. Both walls are divided, like the chancel, into bays by pilasters of rough-dressed stones: the south wall had five bays west of the transept, but only a scar remains where the pilaster by the south doorway existed, and the first pilaster is cut short by the 15th-century large window. At the east and west angles the pilasters, about 1 ft. wide and 4 in. deep, rise to the kneelers of the gable-heads. The others are stopped by a string-course below the level of the sills of the baluster windows, which is about 3 ft. above the chancel string-course. The west wall had five bays, but only traces remain of the pilaster next south of the doorway and window. Most of the courses in the pilasters have tall stones alternating with shorter. The walling west of the south doorway and in the upper stage of the south-west angle has been repaired or refaced at some remote period with ashlar masonry. The ashlar appears in the west wall as well as the south, and by it is a roughly vertical crack in the walling, now filled in. The walls have rough square footings. The east gable-head has a modern coping and gable-cross. The west gable-head is mostly of rough ashlar of later repair, and has further modern repair at the top, and a modern coping. At the north angle, projecting westwards, is a large buttress of three stages of the 15th or 16th century. The north wall has lost its pilasters, and the masonry below the string-course is nearly all of coursed ashlar in a grey stone, and has a chamfered plinth; above the string-course it is of rubble. The roof is tiled: under the south eaves are four old stone corbels, survivals probably of an earlier and different kind of roof. The framing of the roof is modern: it is divided into seven bays by arched trusses and tie-beams. In the south-east angle of the nave inside is another plain corbel, probably for a rood-beam.

The north transept (19 ft. by 14½ ft.) has a tiny lancet window in the east wall: this is set in a 13th-century altar recess which is 5 ft. 10 in. wide and 1 ft. deep. Its sill is 2 ft. 4 in. above the floor, and it has a pointed arch. In the north wall is a single modern trefoiled lancet with a segmental-pointed rear-arch. The west wall is unpierced. It is divided outside by pilasters below the string-course, as in the nave, and the wall is of rubble. The north wall has been largely patched in later periods with ironstone and other material, and below the lancet window are the lower stones of an earlier lancet. The original pilasters at the angles have had their inner arrises cut back, and the intermediate pilasters have been cleared away, but a slight seam shows where the eastern existed. The gable-head is modern.

The south transept appears to have had an original round-headed recess, 8 ft. 3 in. wide, in the east wall, filled in and fitted in the 13th century with a smaller pointed recess, 6 ft. 1 in. wide and 4 ft. 3 in. to the apex above the sill, which is 2 ft. 6 in. above the floor.



WORTH CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST



WORTH CHURCH, BEFORE RESTORATION, 1805
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)



WORTH CHURCH: INTERIOR



WORTH: ROWFANT

The round arch was some 2 ft. 6 in. higher. In the south wall is a modern window of three lights and tracery. In the west wall is a modern doorway at the south end, and north of it is a blocked window. The walls are of rubble, and both east and west walls have the pilasters below the string-course dividing them into three bays, but there is none in the south wall except at the angles. Both transepts are considerably lower than the nave: the string-courses are approximately level with those of the chancel and are close up to the eaves.

The roof of the north transept is modern. That of the south transept is medieval and is of trussed-rafter type with two plain tie-beams.

The north tower, standing east of the north transept, is modern: it is of three stages and is surmounted by a shingled oak spire.

There is also a modern south porch of timber.

There are some remains of medieval painting on the rear-arch of the small 14th-century window east of the south transept archway: it is in red colouring with foliage and flower design. In the north transept window is a 14th-century shield of the arms of Warene. Some early-17th-century panelling of various kinds has been reset against the west wall of the south transept: some has a fluted frieze and rosettes, and other parts have scrolled foliage in low relief. Some plainer panelling of much the same period is reset in the north transept. It was probably from former pews.

At the west end of the nave is a gallery. The front is supported by two oak posts with moulded capitals and bases, and has symmetrically turned balusters and a moulded top rail. The fascia of the sill is carved with an inscription in ornate lettering: THIS GALLERIE IS THE GIFT OF ANTHONY LYNTON LATE RECTOR OF THIS PARRISH WHO DECEASED THE XV DAY OF IVNE ANNO DOMINI 1610.

The font is probably of the end of the 12th century. It has a square bowl with a different treatment of ornament in each of its four faces. The east has two tiers of six arches, the lower pointed, the upper tre-foiled; the north side has a double cross in relief, with a horizontal stem and two shorter upright arms, all with flowered or two-foiled ends; the south has six quatre-foils in two rows, with pointed foils, and the west eight quatrefoils in two rows with rounded foils. The stem is cylindrical, with four small attached shafts cut from the solid: these have moulded capitals and bases of about mid-13th-century date: this stone is said to be another bowl, but looks as though it was made purposely as a stem to carry the earlier bowl above.

East of the south doorway and south of the west doorway, set in pointed recesses and with half the bowl now cut away, are stoups, probably 14th century.

The communion rail, probably of the 17th century, is of German workmanship. It is elaborately carved with biblical and Christian symbols. The pulpit, dated 1577, is said to have come from Wörth in Germany: it is carved with the figures of Christ and the four Evangelists. Both were introduced into this church in the 19th century. In the south transept is a chest of c. 1600 with a raised three-sided lid hung with strap-hinges, and with staples for three locks. There is another small one of hutch type in the north transept, probably of late-17th-century date. In the tower is a late-17th-century table with turned legs. Two cande-

labra of the late 17th century hang in the nave, each with twelve arms.

The memorial of the Great War 1914-18 is on the south wall of the nave: it is a marble tablet with Doric shafts, and has a crucifix above the entablature.

The six bells are of 1844, by C. Oliver of London.

The communion plate includes a cup of 1635 inscribed 'For the parish of Worth in Sussex, 1635', a cover paten of the same date, a paten of 1692, and a flagon of 1704, all silver-gilt.

The registers date from 1558. There is also a book of churchwardens' accounts for 1528-1695.

The north-west entrance to the churchyard has an old open-framed lychgate of timber, dating probably from the 16th century, and from it an avenue of lime-trees leads up to the west doorway. There are several yew-trees in the churchyard.

There are three modern churches in the parish:

ST. LEONARD'S Church, Turner's Hill, is built of rusticated masonry in the late-13th-century style, and consists of a chancel, nave, north and south aisles, designed by L. W. Ridge in 1895, and a west tower, added by Sir Aston Webb in 1923; there are also an organ-chamber and a vestry. The roofs are tiled.

ALL SAINTS Church, Crawley Down, is of Sussex stone in the early-13th-century style. It has a chancel, nave, north, and south aisles, north vestry, and west and south porches. Above the west end is a bell cote. The roofs are covered with slates.

ST. JOHN'S Church, Copthorne, is also in the 13th-century style and of Sussex stone externally and of brick internally. It consists of a chancel, nave, narrow north and south aisles, and a north-west tower, serving also as a porch and surmounted by a stone spire. The roofs are tiled.

The advowson of Worth belonged to the manor,⁹⁶ and descended with it until 1698, but was not sold with it to Leonard Gale, being specially reserved by John Smith, who sold it later to one of the Shelleys of Highley.⁹⁷ In 1704 presentation was made by Ambrose Parker, in 1745 by Carey Hampton, and from 1760 to 1766 by James Weller.⁹⁸ The advowson was held by the Bethunes of Rowfant from 1786 to 1858,⁹⁹ when it was sold by the Rev. George C. Bethune to George Banks, who died in 1862, leaving it to his son George Wilson Banks. He was the patron until his death in 1896,¹ after which it was acquired by Mr. John Goddard, who gave it to the Rev. Arthur Bridge (rector 1896-1917).² It is now in the hands of Mrs. E. N. W. Waller-Bridge.

In 1862 the ecclesiastical parish of Crawley Down was formed from Worth, All Saints Church being a vicarage in the gift of the rector of Worth.

In 1881 the ecclesiastical parish of Copthorne was formed from parts of Worth and Crawley Down, and from Burstow and Horne in Surrey. The church of St. John the Evangelist is a perpetual curacy vested by Order of Council in Dame Jane Walter Lampson, widow of Sir Curtis Miranda Lampson, bart., and her heirs. She left it by will in 1890 to her daughter Hannah Jane Locker Lampson, with remainder to her grandson the Rt. Hon. Godfrey L. T. Locker Lampson, M.P., the present patron.³

In 1895 yet another ecclesiastical parish, taken from

⁹⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. 31 Edw. I, no. 37; ibid. 1 Edw. III, 1st nos. 55; ibid. (Ser. 2), lxix, 48.

⁹⁷ Recov. R. Mich. 26 Chas. II, ro. 18; 5;

Hist. of Crabtree, i, 64, 67-8, 81. See Highley Manor in Balcombe (above).

⁹⁸ Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.)

⁹⁹ Ibid.; Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 267.

¹ Add. MS. 39469, fol. 351.

² *Ex inf.* the Rev. H. F. Waller-Bridge.

³ Add. MS. 39469, fol. 89.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

Worth, Crawley Down, West Hoathly, and Ardingly, was formed at Turner's Hill. The church of St. Leonard is a vicarage in the gift of the Bishop of Chichester.

In 1934 a new church, with a curate's house and hall, was built at Three Bridges.

Thomas Whitfield, by an indenture *CHARITIES* dated 20 Mar. 1623, gave a rentcharge of £10 for the benefit of the poor of the parish. The rentcharge is now payable out of the Rowfant estate.

A gift of land was made to this parish at a remote period, upon trust, to apply the income in supplying poor parishioners with agricultural tools, &c. The property acquired under this gift now consists of 4 acres

of land known as Rushey Croft, in Crawley, let at an annual rent of £11.

John Smith's Charity. This parish receives a yearly sum representing four twenty-second parts of the General Charity of John Smith. In 1936 £20 was received.

The above-mentioned charities are now administered by a body of trustees appointed by a Scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 18th June 1935 under the title of the United Charities. The Scheme directs the income of the charities of Thomas Whitfield and John Smith to be applied for the general benefit of the poor, and the income of the unknown donor's land to be applied in the supply of agricultural tools to poor residents.

THE HUNDRED OF POYNINGS

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

FULKING

POYNINGS

NEWTIMBER

PYECOMBE

AT the time of the Domesday Survey the hundred consisted of Fulking, Perching, Paythorne, Newtimber, Saddlescombe, Poynings, and Pangdean.¹ For the purpose of the subsidy of 1296 it was in two divisions, namely, Poynings, and Newtimber and Pyecombe,² while for that of 1327 the divisions were Saddlescombe with Poynings, Perching, Newtimber, Pyecombe.³ In 1332 the divisions were Poynings, Perching, Newtimber, and Pyecombe.⁴ Down to about 1619 these constituted the four 'boroughs' of the hundred,⁵ Perching paying by far the largest amount for common fine, viz. 4s. 4d. against 2s. 2d. from Newtimber, 1s. 10d. from Pyecombe, and 1s. 8d. from Poynings.⁶ Only Newtimber, Pyecombe, and Poynings were separately assessed for the county rate of 1624,⁷ Perching then presumably being reckoned in with Edburton in the rape of Bramber. The four boroughs reappear, however, in 1651⁸ and 1823,⁹ and the present-day divisions are Newtimber, Poynings, Pyecombe, and part of the ecclesiastical parish of Edburton, i.e. the civil parish of Fulking.¹⁰

The hundred of Poynings was given to Earl Warenne at the Conquest,¹¹ with the rest of the rape of Lewes, with which it descended, suffering the same partitions as the rest of the barony of the Earls Warenne.

In the early 17th century there was one constable for the whole hundred, and he was chosen annually from the four boroughs in turn in the following order: Poynings, Newtimber, Pyecombe, and Perching.¹² The court of the hundred was said in 1811 to have been held 'from time immemorial' in the porch of Poynings Church.¹³

¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 439-40.

² *Ibid.* 174-5.

³ *Bk. of John Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv), 148-9.

⁴ Horsfield, *Sussex* i, 104.

⁵ Horsfield, *Sussex* i, 104.

⁶ *Rot. Hund.* (*Rec. Com.*), ii, 208; *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 435 et seq.

⁷ *Gent. Mag.* 1811, pt. 2, 414.

⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 40-1.

⁹ *Ibid.* 289-90.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxiii, 232.

¹² *Ibid.* lxxiv, 244.

¹³ *Bk. of John Rowe*, 148.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

FULKING

Fochinges (xi cent.); Folkyng (xiii cent.); Fulkynge (xiv cent.).

Fulking parish covers a long strip of land, three-quarters of a mile in width and about 2½ miles in length, running northwards from its boundary with Portslade, a little south of the main ridge of the Downs. The highest part of the parish is called Fulking Hill, and is 659 ft. in height. Between this and Edburton Hill, which is just over 600 ft. high, is Perching Hill, about 50 ft. lower. The parish is entirely agricultural, with sheep pasture on the high Downs, and arable land on the clay and greensand below. There is a mission church, erected in 1925, but Fulking has always been ecclesiastically part of Edburton, in the rape of Bramber. Fulking was in 1894, however, made into a separate civil parish, with an area of 1,552 acres. The population in 1931 was 182.

On Tenant Hill, a spur of the Downs reaching the extreme south-western corner of the parish, are traces of ancient fields, and on the end of the spur itself was an Iron Age and Romano-British settlement.¹ On the summit of Edburton Hill, just within the parish, is the site of a motte-and-bailey castle, known as Castle Rings. It has a very small rectangular bailey, and an equally insignificant motte.² It is probably an outpost castle constructed soon after the landing in 1066. The boundary of the rape, and the division between East and West Sussex, passes immediately to the west of the motte-ditch.

The origin of the village seems to have been Fulking Spring, which may still be seen welling out of the foot of the Downs at the end of the village street. This curves away eastwards along the hill-side, and is lined on both sides with old cottages, many of them showing good half-timber work, especially noteworthy being 'Septima Cottage' and 'Kent House', the latter being at the extreme eastern end of the village. Septima Cottage has part of its outshut walling built in masonry, and may be medieval. Kent House is part of a very fine half-timbered house, dating from about 1600, only a bay and a half of which remains. It is a lofty structure raised over a basement, above which are two floors, and is constructed entirely of timber-framing in large braced panels. There remains over the cellar a parlour with its outshut and a large open fire-place with cambered and stop-chamfered chimney beam, and a half-bay, in different occupation, on the other side of the stack. The beams of the first floor are all stop-chamfered.

A large late-16th-century stone-built house, on the north side of the village street, now called 'The Old Farmhouse', was possibly the old manor-house. It is built of a very poor stone, very much decayed, and has brick quoins and a plinth. The original windows are brick-mullioned, and were clearly intended to be plastered. The whole resembles the manor-house of Meeching, Newhaven, which is, however, rather larger, the Fulking house having only a hall and one parlour with the chimney-stack between them. In the thickness of the stack is the newel stair and the entrance door.

The hall occupies two bays and the parlour has one, and both have an outshut aisle on the north. There were two upper rooms, but the hall and the room over it have both been divided. The hall fire-place has a cambered and chamfered chimney-beam, as has also that of the room over, but the fire-places of the parlour and its upper room have been modernized. The oak newel-stair beside the stack appears to be original. The beams of the first floor are all stop-chamfered. The east gable shows some of the original mullioned windows, but the south windows have all been modernized.

Near the east end of the village is an old house called Fulking Farmhouse. Its south front to the road is good Georgian work, but behind this is the original half-timber house of four bays, probably built about 1600. The interior has been completely modernized and covered with modern panelling.

About 300 yards west of the village is Perching Manor House. A large farm adjoins the house, which is not very old, but the kitchen fire-place has a chamfered four-centred chimney-beam from an earlier structure. The medieval manor-house or castle of Perching stood some 300 yards west of the existing farm-house, and its site is marked by a large square mound, with traces of a moat faintly visible. The castle stood in the middle of the large field adjoining the road, which is diverted on its way from Fulking to avoid the south-east angle of the moat. The hedge on the north side of the field is similarly diverted, and marks the northern limit of the site. The two diversions show the eastern limit of the moat, which cannot otherwise be detected. The western moat, however, has not been completely filled in, and may be clearly seen as a wide shallow depression crossing the field. In dry weather the view of the site from Edburton Hill gives a perfect impression of its formation, the moats themselves being of a darker green than the surrounding field, and the upcast which formed the ramparts turning the grass to brown. There are indications of there having been a counter-scarp bank to the western moat. No masonry now remains above ground, but ruins are said to have been visible within the memory of a generation ago.³

A quarter of a mile west of Perching Manor House is Paythorne Farm, where a modern farm-house stands in a deep cutting in the hill-side.

The early history of the manor of Fulking is so closely intertwined with that of Perching, also in Edburton parish, that it seems impossible to disentangle it. In 1086 Fulking was held as 3 hides and 1 virgate by Tezelin, the cook, of Earl Warenne, and with it as one manor 2 hides in Perching.⁴ William de Wateville held of Earl Warenne 5½ hides at Perching that were held by two men of Azor before the Conquest,⁵ while Oswald continued in occupation of the 3 hides at Perching that he had held of King Edward.⁶

The overlordship of half a knight's fee, variously ascribed to Fulking⁷ and Perching,⁸ descended with the rape⁹ and was assigned in 1439 to Elizabeth, Lady

¹ See paper by G. A. Holleyman in *Antiquity*, ix, map opposite p. 448.

² Plan in *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 476.

³ Information by the tenant of Paythorne Farm.

⁴ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 356-7, 439-40. These

were held, respectively, before the Conquest by Harold of King Edward and by Bellinc of Earl Godwin.

⁵ *Ibid.* 356-7, 440.

⁶ *Ibid.* 356-7, 439.

⁷ *Feud. Aids*, v, 162; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 18 Hen. VI, no. 28; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 193, 196.

⁸ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ii, p. 361.

⁹ Cf. *Cal. Pat.* 1416-22, p. 139.

Bergavenny.¹⁰ In the 16th century the Crown resumed the overlordship.¹¹ This half-fee descended in the Say family,¹² at least until 1428,¹³ and this connexion gives grounds for linking the half-fee with the 5½ hides in Perching of William de Wateville,¹⁴ which probably came into the hands of the Chesney family¹⁵ through the marriage of Ralph de Chesney, living in 1086, with Maud daughter of William de Wateville.¹⁶ Possessions of the Chesney family subsequently descended by marriage to Geoffrey de Say, early in the 13th century.¹⁷

Soon after the Conquest, land in *FULKING* was held by Godfrey de Bellomonte,¹⁸ and in 1286 Robert Aguilun died seised of a tenement in Perching, formerly of Sir William Beaumund,¹⁹ held of Sir William de Say as half a knight's fee, rendering to Earl Warenne for William de Say 2 bushels of beans in lieu of fencing the earl's park of Ditchling.²⁰ This was probably the manor of Fulking held by John de Scariis and his wife Alice.²¹ They, in 1260, released to Robert Aguilun all their rights in two-thirds of the manor, with the reversion of the remaining third, held by John Pycot and his wife Lucy as her dower of the inheritance of Alice.²² In 1261 Robert Aguilun's right in one-third of the manor was recognized by Robert de Cestre and his wife Joan.²³

The land represented by this half-fee then appears to have been merged in the manor of Perching (q.v.) until the death of Thomas de Poynings in 1375, when it possibly constituted the manor of *LITTLE PERCHING*, held by military service of Robert de Bayvill.²⁴ It had been settled on Thomas's wife Blanche²⁵ but was held, along with Poynings (q.v.), by his brother Richard who died in 1387.²⁶ It was then said to be held of Robert Bevyl.²⁷ Isabel, Richard's widow, held it of John Brokere in dower till her death in 1394.²⁸ After this the manor followed the descent of the main manor of Perching, while preserving its identity,²⁹ until the death of Henry, Earl of Northumberland, in 1489.³⁰

There was a knight's fee in Perching which in 1242-3 was held of Earl Warenne as overlord,³¹ and which descended with the rape, falling in 1439 to the inheritance of Edmund Lenthall.³² All rights in that moiety of his knight's fees that descended to the Dukes of Norfolk after Lenthall's death were in 1476-7 surrendered to the Crown by the Duchess of Norfolk,³³ and the manor of *PERCHING* ceased to be held of the barony of Lewes.³⁴

This knight's fee may be identified with the Domesday lands of Tezelin in Fulking and Perching.³⁵ William son of Tezelin was holding land at Perching at the end of the 11th century.³⁶ Tezelin's lands evidently followed the descent of his manor of Addington in Surrey, held by the kitchen serjeanty, coming by the beginning of the 13th century to Bartholomew de Chesney.³⁷ His daughter and heir Isabel married Peter eldest son of Henry Fitz Ailwin, Mayor of London.³⁸ They were holding land in Perching in 1199.³⁹ Their younger daughter Joan married William Aguillon as her second husband in 1212,⁴⁰ and in 1242-3 William was holding 1 knight's fee in Perching.⁴¹ He died in 1244.⁴² His son and heir Sir Robert was granted free-warren in his demesne lands in the manor in 1248,⁴³ and in 1264 he was allowed to inclose his manor-house at Perching with a ditch and a stone wall, and to crenellate it.⁴⁴ In 1281 he acquired all the tenements of Philip de Percyng in Perching,⁴⁵ and in 1284 he was returned as holding the vill.⁴⁶ At his death in 1286 his manor of Perching with its member 'Homwode' was said to be held as 1 knight's fee, doing suit at Lewes, and paying 20½d. for fencing the earl's park at Ditchling, together with 2 bushels of wheat, and paying to Roger Wasp 12d. yearly.⁴⁷ This was the main manor of Perching. Robert's heir was his daughter Isabel wife of Hugh Bardolf, to whom the manor descended.⁴⁸ Hugh died in 1304⁴⁹ and in 1308-9 his widow settled a manor of Perching on herself and her second son William, with contingent remainders to her daughters Nichole and Margery.⁵⁰ Isabel was still holding Perching in 1316⁵¹ but was not seised of it at her death in 1323.⁵²

The manor appears in the hands of Sir Robert de Arderne, who had land in Perching in 1327⁵³ and who was given licence to crenellate his manor-house there in 1329.⁵⁴ His wife Nichole was presumably the elder daughter of Isabel Bardolf; she subsequently married Sir Thomas Wale,⁵⁵ who was the chief landowner in Perching in 1332⁵⁶ and held the fee.⁵⁷ In 1338 John de Molyns appears as the owner of a manor of Perching,⁵⁸ and in 1346 Sir John de Molyns and Giles son of Robert de Arderne brought an assize of novel disseisin



AGUILLON. Gules a fleur de lis argent.

¹⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 190.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 196.

¹² *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ii, p. 361; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 2668. Cf. Hamsey.

¹³ *Feud. Aids*, v, 162.

¹⁴ Cf. *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 356-7, 440.

¹⁵ See Perching, below.

¹⁶ Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxx, 21, 45.

¹⁷ See Hamsey in Barcombe Hund.; Streat in Streat Hund.

¹⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii, 13.

¹⁹ John Rowe, Lord Abergavenny's steward c. 1620, queries: 'Who is the tenant of lands in Fulking formerly of William Beaumont?': *ibid.* xxxiv, 196.

²⁰ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ii, p. 361.

²¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 643.

²² *Ibid.*

²³ *Ibid.* 655. In 1267, Aguilon granted to Stephen Marshal of La Wyke a house in Fulking formerly held at farm by Reynold the Miller, together with 'a certain place of the court of Fulking': *Cal. Chart.* ii, 82-3.

²⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 49 Edw. III, pt. 2,

1st nos. 27.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

²⁶ *Ibid.* 11 Ric. II.

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ *Ibid.* 17 Ric. II, no. 46.

²⁹ Cf. *Feud. Aids*, v, 162.

³⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 779.

³¹ *Bk. of Fees*, 690.

³² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 187; *Cal. Pat.* 1441-6, p. 350.

³³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 3212. See under rape.

³⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 196.

³⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 356-7, 439-40.

³⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii, 13.

³⁷ *V.C.H. Surrey*, iv, 164; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 347, 348.

³⁸ Stapleton, *Intro. to Liber de Antiquis Legibus* (Camden Soc.), iv.

³⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxix, 54-8; *Rot. Cur. Reg.* (ed. Palgrave), 432.

⁴⁰ Farrer, *op. cit.* 348.

⁴¹ *Bk. of Fees*, 690.

⁴² Farrer, *op. cit.* 349.

⁴³ *Cal. Chart.* i, 329.

⁴⁴ *Cal. Pat.* 1258-66, pp. 307, 381.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* iv, p. 36. Cf. *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 40.

⁴⁶ *Feud. Aids*, v, 129.

⁴⁷ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ii, p. 361.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴⁹ *Ibid.* iv, p. 168.

⁵⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 1244. Thomas, the elder son, succeeded to his father's manor of Plumpton, in Streat Hundred.

⁵¹ *Feud. Aids*, v, 136.

⁵² *Cal. Inq. p.m.* vi, 454.

⁵³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 175; *Cal. Chart.* iv, 25, 91.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.* 117, 118; *Cal. Pat.* 1327-30, p. 357.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* 1334-8, p. 250.

⁵⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 289.

⁵⁷ In 1428 the fee was said to be held by 'the heir of Thomas Wale': *Feud. Aids*, v, 162. Thomas died in 1352, Nichole surviving: *Cal. Inq. p.m.* x, 17.

⁵⁸ *Cal. Pat.* 1338-40, p. 106. He may have been guardian of Giles de Arderne.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

against William Botevilleyn and others concerning tenelements in Perching and elsewhere.⁵⁹ When in 1349 William Botevilleyn conveyed the manor of Perching to Michael de Poynings, Thomas Wale and Nichole put in their claim.⁶⁰ Michael was holding at his death in 1369 a manor of Perching⁶¹ which appears to correspond with *PERCHING MAGNA* held by his son Thomas, who died in 1375.⁶² Thomas had settled this on his wife Blanche for her life.⁶³ She died in 1409⁶⁴ and her nephew, Robert de Poynings, was holding the manor in 1412.⁶⁵ From that time it followed the descent of Poynings (q.v.), the two manors being held together as half a knight's fee by Sir Anthony Browne of the king in chief.⁶⁶

The farm of the manor had been leased in 1523 to George Gyffard of Poynings for 21 years.⁶⁷ John Shelley held it in about 1558 and his daughter Mary entered into litigation concerning her right to succeed him.⁶⁸ In 1609 the site of the manor was leased for 21 years to John Cheele.⁶⁹

The manor continued to descend in the Browne family and returned to the Crown in 1787 on the death of the 9th Viscount Montagu (cf. Poynings). It then passed by a beneficial lease to William Stephen Poyntz and his wife, formerly Elizabeth Mary Browne.⁷⁰ The Crown is still the overlord.⁷¹

Robert Aguilun at his death in 1286 was holding a tenement in Perching of Sir William Grandyn for $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ knight's fee,⁷² and also another tenement there for which he paid to John de la Mare 5s., to Niel de Brok 2d., and to the Prior of Lewes 2s. and $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for sheriff's aid.

At the time of the Domesday Survey there was half a

mill attached to Oswald's 3 hides in Perching and half a mill attached to Tezelin's 2 hides there.⁷³ In 1304 there was a water-mill in the manor of Perching.⁷⁴

In 1086 Levenot held of William de Warenne *PAYTHORNE*,⁷⁵ as $1\frac{1}{2}$ hides. He had held it before the Conquest, when it was assessed for 4 hides, the remainder subsequently being attached to the rape of Bramber.⁷⁶ The overlordship appears to have descended with the rape, and in 1579 the manor was held of Lord Abergavenny by rent of 4 bushels of wheat.⁷⁷ In 1631, however, 'certain lands called Pawthorne' were said to be held as $\frac{1}{2}$ knight's fee as of the Lord Abergavenny's manor of Portslade.⁷⁸

Juliana de Pauethorn was holding land in the hundred in 1296,⁷⁹ and William de Pauethorn and his wife Alice acquired land in Edburton in 1312-13,⁸⁰ and settled land there and in Perching on their son William and his wife Isabel in 1332;⁸¹ but the manor is only mentioned in 1579, when Richard Covert of Slaugham (q.v.) died seised of the manor of Paythorne.⁸² He was succeeded by his second son, Sir Walter Covert, who in 1631 was said to be holding 'certain lands called Pawthorne' as $\frac{1}{2}$ knight's fee of the manor of Portslade,⁸³ and died the following year, seised of the farm of Paythorne.⁸⁴ His heir was his niece Ann wife of Sir Walter Covert of Maidstone.⁸⁵ Her son Thomas died seised of these lands in 1643,⁸⁶ and in 1653 his daughter, then aged 14, paid 8d. for relief.⁸⁷ In 1682 Thomas Barton died seised of these lands, and in 1683 his nephew and co-heir Thomas Colwell alienated a moiety.⁸⁸

In 1834 Peathorne Farm was in the possession of Mrs. Baker.⁸⁹

NEWTIMBER

Niuembre (xi cent.); Nytymbre (xiv cent.); Newtimbre (xv cent.).

The parish of Newtimber covers a long strip of land, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length from north to south, and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile broad, having Newtimber Hill, which is close on 700 ft. in height, in about the centre of its area of 1,721 acres. South of Newtimber Hill is the Downland portion of the parish, with the hamlet of Saddlescombe, which houses most of the population of 154 recorded in 1931. Newtimber Place, in its park, and the parish church lie at the foot of the Downs north of the hill. The summit of the Downs is all sheep pasture, but there is arable land in Saddlescombe and in the north of the parish.

The parish was traversed by a trackway of remote antiquity, probably dating from the Early Iron Age, and subsequently utilized by the Romans, in whose day a road came from London southwards through the Weald, to cross the Downs by way of the saddle be-

tween the Dyke Hill and Newtimber Hill on its way to the mouth of the River Adur. This old track passes between Newtimber Place and the church, skirts Newtimber Hill in a deep bostal, after which its route, now followed by the western boundary of the parish, climbed the Downs by way of the Dyke Valley.

Another old road enters the parish from Pyecombe over the col between Newtimber Hill and Cow Down and descends the coombe to Saddlescombe. Thence it climbs the Downs southwards, by a deep bostal, in the direction of Brighton, the modern road from which appears to follow its course as it nears Saddlescombe; it by-passes the hamlet and skirts Newtimber Hill to meet the old track-way to Newtimber Church. From the modern road another descends steeply to Poynings. A road now runs at the foot of the Downs between Poynings and Pyecombe, and the north-east side of the parish is traversed by the road from Brighton to London

⁵⁹ *Cal. Close*, 1346-9, p. 177.

⁶⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 2087. Cf. *ibid.* 1523. In 1353 Michael acknowledged a debt of £500 to Nichole: *Cal. Close*, 1349-54, p. 581. At the same time she remitted to him all claim to the manor: Add. MS. 39374, fol. 143 d.

⁶¹ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 43 Edw. III, pt. 2, 1st nos. 14.

⁶² *Ibid.* 49 Edw. III, pt. 2, 1st nos. 27.

⁶³ *Ibid.*

⁶⁴ *Ibid.* 10 Hen. IV, no. 48.

⁶⁵ *Feud. Aids*, vi, 525. Cf. *Cal. Pat.* 1416-22, p. 139.

⁶⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 134; xx, 360.

⁶⁷ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xii (2), g. 1311

(34).

⁶⁸ *Chan. Proc.* (Ser. 2), bdle. 164, no. 40. Cf. also bdle. 50, no. 25.

⁶⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 346-7.

⁷⁰ Horsfield, *Sussex*, ii, 224.

⁷¹ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.*

⁷² *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ii, p. 361.

⁷³ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 439.

⁷⁴ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* iv, p. 168.

⁷⁵ Pavorne, Pauethorna (xi cent.); Pavethorn (xiv cent.); Pawethorne (xvi cent.); Pawthorne (xvii cent.); Peathorne (xix cent.).

⁷⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 439. Cf. *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), i, 13; ii, 106-7.

⁷⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iii, 86; xiv, 292.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.* xxxiv, 205.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.* x, 40.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.* xxiii, 1360.

⁸¹ *Ibid.* 1796.

⁸² *Ibid.* iii, 86; xiv, 292. Cf. Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 183.

⁸³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 205.

⁸⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), ccclxvii, 187; Comber, loc. cit.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.* 184, 185; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* ccclxv, 55.

⁸⁶ Add. MS. 39472, fol. 163.

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*

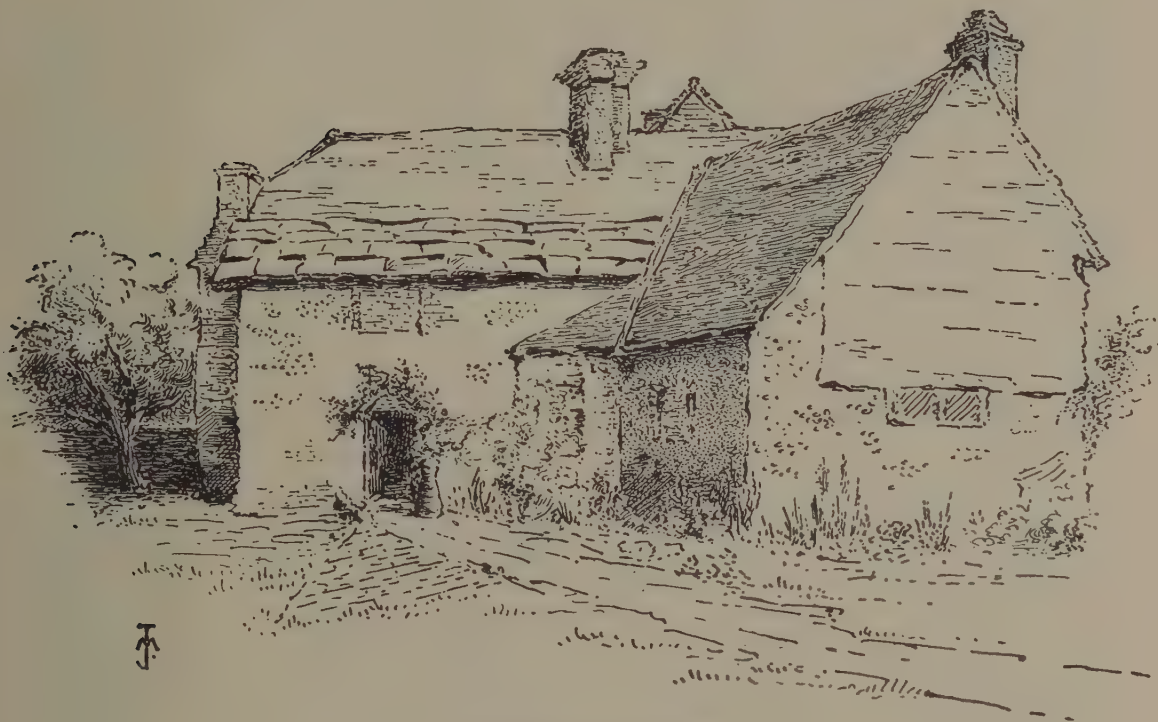
⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

⁸⁹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, ii, 224.

by way of Hickstead and Crawley. This road, first opened in 1810, has since that date formed the main London-Brighton road.

The earliest signs of the occupation of the parish are to be seen on Newtimber Hill, where there are medieval strip-lynchets.¹ These are believed to overlie earlier prehistoric fields. The medieval settlement, however, appears to have been at Saddlescombe, a small hamlet surrounding a green, and now consisting of the manor-house, to-day a farm-house, with a large farm adjoining it on the east, and a few cottages surrounding the green.

only from the flue of the ground-floor fire-place. The stack is at present surrounded by a building of two bays, built in flint with brick quoins, and apparently of the 17th century. The first floor is heavily timbered. On the west side of the first floor, next the stack, is the splayed reveal of a blocked window of medieval appearance. From the conjectural hall there projects eastwards a small building of two bays in length, the division being marked by a truss, with curved struts forming a flat arch beneath the tie-beam, of rather unusual design. This wing has a width inside of about 13 ft., increased now to 18 ft. under a lateral extension of the



SADDLESCOMBE MANOR-HOUSE

Very little of antiquity remains in the building of Saddlescombe manor-house.² The main block, facing south, is of 18th-century date. The oldest portion, which now forms the east wing of the manor-house, consists of an L-shaped building constructed chiefly of chalk and timber with some brick. The longer wing, running north and south, probably represents a medieval hall of about 38 ft. by 18 ft. (internal dimensions). It contains the present scullery and the two storerooms adjoining it on the north, from which it is separated by a large chimney-stack dating from about 1500. The chamber above the scullery contains a well-carved fire-place in good freestone, with a four-centred arch and deeply incised spandrels. The fire-place below has been rebuilt during the 16th century, when its enlargement cut into the earlier bread oven on its east side. The present fire-place has a chamfered brick four-centred arch of wide span. Over the old oven is a small room about 5 ft. square, contrived in the thickness of the stack at about first-floor level, but approachable

roof. Its eastern end is of timber and tile-hung, a treatment which often indicates that the building was originally longer and has been shortened. On the other hand, there is a very heavy oak timber, some 7 ft. 6 in. up, in this wall, with a large splay on its upper surface, which may well represent the sill of an eastern window. The position of this wing, pointing east from the hall, suggests the chapel which, with the hall, is mentioned in manorial records.

The establishment of the Templars and of their successors the Hospitallers at Saddlescombe was clearly always a small one, and although there are no structural features which can be dated as early as the 14th century, it is at least possible that this building represents approximately the original lay-out of the preceptory.

In the centre of the village green is a deep well, covered by a square timber well-house inclosing a 'donkey-wheel'. The apparatus consists of two wheels similar to the wheels of church bells, their rims joined by lengths of board to form the circular platform upon

¹ See paper by G. A. Holleyman in *Antiquity*, ix, 445.

² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxvi, 197-8.

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the inside face of which the animal walked as the wheel turned. The axle is supported by a heavy timber framework similar in construction to a bell-cage. The whole is perhaps of 16th- or 17th-century construction, and is not now in use.

Newtimber Place³ stands within its park in the northern part of the parish and is surrounded by a moat, the plan of which is approximately square at its outer edge. The island, however, is D-shaped, the curved side being on the east, and the house standing on the side opposite. The entrance was probably on the west, where the present bridge leads to the back door of the house. This part of the building, the north wing, is apparently the oldest part of the house, and consisted originally of a large late-16th-century farm-house, built of flint, with heavy stone quoins and a strong plinth of the same material. No old windows remain, but the original entrance was probably on the site of the door, now covered by a modern porch, at the foot of the present back stairs. This door gave access to the lower end of a large hall of three bays, at the farther end of which was a fire-place, behind which was the chief parlour, also with a fire-place. There was apparently also a lower or dining parlour, represented by the present dining-room, at the lower end of the hall. Late in the 17th century the house was considerably enlarged by the addition of the east wing, with its fine front, and the new buttery, now the butler's pantry, and the grand staircase. The old dining parlour was retained, and next to it was planned a new 'front hall', with a drawing-room beyond at the south end of the new wing. The entrance door was joined to the new staircase by a passage cutting off the lower end of the old hall, which became the kitchen, and the old private parlour became the scullery. Beyond this a new room was built, with three small gables overlooking the moat. The whole of the old building was re-faced, and its windows re-designed to match more nearly the new wing. In modern times the drawing-room end of the wing has been extended to the moat and a door has been made through the central window of the east front and covered by a porch. This front has a facing of squared flint. The quoins are of stone, but the window surrounds are in fine brickwork with gauged flat arches. There is a projecting string at first-floor level, and a strong plinth. The modern porch mars what would otherwise be a fine front. The north front of the house is similar in appearance, but the brickwork is not so good and the window arches are very flat three-centred. The flint facing on this side is not squared. The original entrance has had a later door inserted and is now covered by a modern porch, and another door has been made next to the large chimney-stack, to give access to the present kitchen and scullery. The west gable of the old house is surmounted by a small 17th-century bell-cote, eorbelled out from the wall-face. Below this is a low 17th-century building having three low brick gables rising above the moat with a window, having a three-centred arch, beneath the central gable. The south front of the house is of the 19th century and later. The two gables covering the staircase and the adjoining block are faced with tile-hanging imitating brickwork.

Within the house, the most interesting feature is the fire-place in the front hall, probably removed from the old private parlour. This dates from about 1600, and has a pair of caryatids, the whole of very coarse design and crudely executed. Within is a cast-iron interior of late-18th-century design. The staircase is very fine and dates from about 1680; it has an open well, and the balustrade has heavy turned balusters. The staircase hall was improved at the end of the 18th century, when two new doors, with fan-lights over, were made to give access to the front hall and to the passage to the front door. At the same time a similar door was provided between the front hall and the passage. The paintings which cover the walls of the front hall probably date from this period or shortly after.

Outside the moat at its north-west angle is an octagonal pigeon-house, built of flint-faced rubble with brick dressings and contemporary with the 17th-century alterations to the house. The roof is pyramidal, tiled, and surmounted by a small cupola. It holds about 850 nests, and the potency is double, supporting a ladder at either end.⁴ South of the pigeon-house are contemporary stables.

On the London Road, east of the church, is Red-house Farm, a half-timber structure, now covered with stucco and with imitation Tudor windows inserted in the old walling. It is of early-17th-century origin and has a hall and two parlours, all raised over cellars. The first-floor beams are stop-chamfered. The cellar under the upper parlour has an old trellis partition. There is a large outset aisle, containing the kitchen, at the lower end of the house. The main stack is an insertion, and the original stair has disappeared.

The earliest mention of *NEWTIMBER MANORS* is in 960, when lands there were restored to Wulfric the thegn by King Edgar.⁵ It was held by Aelfech of King Edward the Confessor, and in 1086 Ralph de Chesney held Newtimber as 10 hides of Earl Warenne.⁶ This formed part of the 14 knights' fees held by his descendants, the family of Say, owners of Hamsey and Streat (q.v.). The overlordship descended with the rape, but in 1439 7 of the fees went to Edmund Lenthall and the other 7 to the Duke of Norfolk.⁷ Eventually the overlordship of this manor came into the hands of the Dukes of Norfolk.⁸

The mesne tenancy was long retained by the Say family and by 1284, at least, Newtimber was held of William de Say as half a knight's fee.⁹ In 1367 the manor was held as of the manor of Hamsey,¹⁰ and in 1395-6 7½ knights' fees, in Newtimber among other places, were settled on Elizabeth de Say and her husband Sir William Heron.¹¹ Of these Sir William died seised in 1404,¹² after which time nothing further appears to be heard of these knights' fees.¹³

Bartholomew de Capella was holding land in Newtimber in 1248¹⁴ and this may have been the manor later held by his daughter Joan and her husband John de Bohun of Midhurst who in 1281-2 leased it to John de Bocking and his wife Alice for the term of their lives.¹⁵ John de Bocking appears still to have been in occupation of the manor in 1296.¹⁶

Meanwhile, John de Bohun had settled his Sussex

³ *Suss. County Mag.* v, 641-50; *Country Life*, xl, 780.

⁴ See *Brighton and Hove Archaeologist*, iii, 137.

⁵ *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 152.

⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 440.

⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 187, 188; *Cal. Inq.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 417.

⁸ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 180.

⁹ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ii, 533.

¹⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 41 Edw. III, 1st nos.

¹¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, 2668; *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vii, 62.

¹² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 6 Hen. IV, no. 21.

¹³ Cf. Streat and Hamsey.

¹⁴ *Close R.* 1247-51, p. 122.

¹⁵ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 200; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 946; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ii, 533; *Feud Aids*, v, 129. Cf. also *Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 881, 1018.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* x, 40 (subsidy).

lands on Anthony Bec, Bishop of Durham, for life.¹⁷ John died in 1284,¹⁸ his sons John and James in 1295



SAY. Quarterly or and gules.



BOHUN of Midhurst. Or a cross azure.

and 1306,¹⁹ and finally the Bishop of Durham in 1311,²⁰ after which the manor reverted to the Bohuns, being held in 1316 by Joan widow of the elder John de Bohun.²¹ Her grandson John son of James de Bohun was holding Newtimber at his death in 1367,²² and his son John,²³ who in 1428 was holding the manor as half a knight's fee,²⁴ died in 1433, leaving as heir his son Humphrey.²⁵ Humphrey died in 1468,²⁶ and his son John was dead by 1494, leaving two daughters, Mary wife of Sir David Owen and Ursula wife of Sir Robert Southwell.²⁷

The manor was then divided and Ursula and Sir Robert Southwell were dealing by fine with their moiety in 1508.²⁸ Newtimber was still divided in 1523,²⁹ but eventually Ursula and Robert died without issue.³⁰

The other half of the manor was transferred by Sir Henry Owen son of Mary Bohun and Sir David Owen, in 1520 and 1522, to Thomas Cheyne and others.³¹ Parnell sister of Thomas Cheyne married Richard Bellingham, into whose family this moiety subsequently passed.³² His son Edward lived at Newtimber and probably built the house there.³³ He died about 1589 and his son Richard died in 1592 holding the whole manor which passed to his son Edward.³⁴ Sir Edward died in 1640,³⁵ and after the life-interest of his son Thomas Bellingham, who died in 1648 or in 1649,³⁶ the manor passed in accordance with Sir Edward's will to his grandson Edward Woodcock.³⁷ Woodcock's claim to the manor was challenged by a younger branch of the family as heirs male, in the persons of Edward, John, and Walter Bellingham, who in 1660 appear as defendants in a fine for Newtimber.³⁸ Nevertheless, the



BELLINGHAM. Argent three hunting horns sable.

ownership remained with the Woodcocks until Ursula, daughter of Edward Woodcock, and her husband Pury Cust sold the manor in 1681 to Thomas Osborne.³⁹ He was succeeded in 1710 by his son Thomas, who died in 1727,⁴⁰ and from whom it passed to his eldest son Leighton Osborne,⁴¹ who with his wife Elizabeth in 1741 conveyed the property to Nathaniel Newnham.⁴² On the death of Newnham's wife the manor went to George Lewis Newnham his eldest son, who died in 1800.⁴³ His son and heir John Lewis Newnham in 1832 sold the manor to Charles Gordon.⁴⁴ In 1909 Mr. Sydney Charles Buxton, later Earl Buxton, bought it from the Gordons.⁴⁵ He died early in 1935, and the Countess Buxton is now lady of the manor.⁴⁶

SADDLESCOMBE [Salescome (xi cent.)] was held as 17 hides by Ralph de Chesney of Earl Warenne in 1086.⁴⁷ Before the Conquest it had been held by Godwin the priest of Earl Godwin, and formed part of the manor of Bosham.⁴⁸ The overlordship descended with the rape at least until 1344.⁴⁹ At a subsequent date the manor was held of the king in chief. The connexion with the Chesney and Say families appears to have persisted until at least 1404 when William Heron died seised of knight's fees including Saddlescombe.⁵⁰ Towards the end of the 12th century Geoffrey de Say, son of Alice de Chesney,⁵¹ had granted the manor to the Templars in exchange for the manor of Greenwich in Kent, which he had previously given to the order.⁵² It was, therefore, seized by the king in 1308 with other property of the Templars,⁵³ and after the dissolution of the order in 1312 Saddlescombe was granted to the



KNIGHTS TEMPLARS. Argent a cross gules and a chief sable.



KNIGHTS HOSPITALLERS. Gules a cross argent.

Knights Hospitallers,⁵⁴ but John de Warenne, as overlord, interfered with the transfer and in 1315 obtained licence to grant it for life to his illegitimate son Thomas de Nerford,⁵⁵ who sub-let it to John de Brewose.⁵⁶ The manor was subsequently acknowledged to be the right of the hospital and the prior himself in 1342 demised it to Thomas Nerford and his wife Alice for their lives.⁵⁷

¹⁷ Add. MS. 39499, fol. 55; G.E.C. op. cit. (2nd ed.), ii, 200.

¹⁸ Cal. Inq. p.m. ii, 533.

¹⁹ G.E.C. loc. cit.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Feud. Aids, v, 136.

²² Chan. Inq. p.m. 41 Edw. III, 1st nos. 13; cf. Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii, 1836; G.E.C. loc. cit.

²³ Ibid.; Cal. Pat. 1367-70, p. 335; Feud. Aids, vi, 523.

²⁴ Ibid. v, 162.

²⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. 11 Hen. VI, no. 33; G.E.C. op. cit. ii, 201.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii, 3390.

²⁹ Recov. R. Trin. 14 Hen. VIII, ro. 126.

³⁰ G.E.C. op. cit. ii, 201.

³¹ Suss. Arch. Coll. vii, 27; Suss. Rec. Soc. xx, 319; Recov. R. Trin. 14 Hen. VIII, ro. 126.

³² Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes), 9-10.

³³ Suss. N. & Q. v, 152-4; Comber, op. cit. 11.

³⁴ Ibid. 11, 12, 13; Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv, 106; cf. ibid. xx, 319; Recov. R. East. 35 Eliz. ro. 15; ibid. East. 43 Eliz. ro. 61.

³⁵ Comber, op. cit. 13.

³⁶ Ibid.; cf. Recov. R. East. 17 Chas. I, ro. 27.

³⁷ Add. MS. 39499, fol. 58; Cal. of Com. for Comp. iv, 2458, 2459.

³⁸ Suss. Rec. Soc. xx, 320.

³⁹ Ibid.; Horsfield, Sussex, i, 179.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Ibid. Cf. Recov. R. Trin. 6 & 7 Geo. II, ro. 13, 348.

⁴² Suss. Rec. Soc. xx, 320.

⁴³ Horsfield, Sussex, i, 179-80.

⁴⁴ Ibid. i, 180; Suss. Rec. Soc. xx, 320.

Cf. Recov. R. Mich. 46 Geo. III, ro. 409; Add. MS. 39499, fol. 58.

⁴⁵ Suss. N. & Q. v, 155.

⁴⁶ Ex. inf. Rev. G. T. Ritherdon.

⁴⁷ V.C.H. Suss. i, 440.

⁴⁸ Ibid. 374, 392.

⁴⁹ Cal. Inq. p.m. viii, 508.

⁵⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. 6 Hen. IV, file 189, no. 21.

⁵¹ See accounts of Saddlescombe Manor in Suss. Arch. Coll. ix, lxvi.

⁵² Suss. Rec. Soc. ii, 342; Suss. Arch. Coll. ix, 233-4. Cf. Cott. MSS. Nero E. vi.

⁵³ Suss. Arch. Coll. ix, 239, 242-4.

⁵⁴ Ibid. 244.

⁵⁵ Cal. Pat. 1313-17, p. 223.

⁵⁶ Suss. Arch. Coll. ix, 244.

⁵⁷ Ibid. 244-5; Cal. Close, 1396-9, p. 261.

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Sir Thomas died in 1344⁵⁸ and his widow, presumably some time after 1376, granted her estate to Richard, Earl of Arundel, who after her death in 1395 continued to occupy the manor as tenant-at-will of the successive priors of the hospital.⁵⁹ The manor was taken into the king's hands when Arundel was attainted in 1397, but was restored in 1398 to the prior of the hospital⁶⁰ who in 1428 was holding it as half a knight's fee.⁶¹

After the dissolution of the order in 1540⁶² the manor was granted as 'Sadlescombe and Blakefeld', in fee to Sir Anthony Browne, the owner of Poynings (q.v.).⁶³ In his family the manor continued to descend.⁶⁴ His son Anthony Browne, 1st Viscount Montagu, died holding it of the king in chief in 1592.⁶⁵ His son having predeceased him, the manor was held, presumably as dower, by his daughter-in-law Mary, afterwards Lady Gerard, who outlived her son Anthony, the 2nd Viscount Montagu, and was dead by November 1637.⁶⁶ Her grandson Francis, 3rd viscount, held the manor,⁶⁷ which continued to descend with the title.⁶⁸ In 1792 the 9th and last viscount, Mark Anthony Browne, leased the manor-house and farm to Stephen Byne,⁶⁹ and in 1797 he died.⁷⁰ The manor then appears to have passed to his distant cousin Elizabeth Mary Browne sister of the 8th viscount, who with her husband William Stephen Poyntz⁷¹ in 1825 conveyed it to George O'Brien (Wyndham), Earl of Egremont.⁷² On his death in 1837 the property passed to his eldest son George Wyndham Ilive, subsequently Wyndham, the 1st Lord Leconfield.⁷³ He died in 1869 and it passed to his son the 2nd baron, who died in 1901. His son and successor sold it in 1921 to Mr. Ernest Robinson, whose family had held the farm since 1854.⁷⁴ In 1926 the Brighton Corporation bought the hamlet.

A 'fee' of Saddlescombe was held by Ralph son of Savaric and after his death was confirmed by Henry II



WYNDHAM, Lord Leconfield. *Azure a cheveron between three lions' heads rased in a border wavy or.*

to Geldwin son of Savaric his brother.⁷⁵ In 1361 this land was confirmed to John de Bohun of Midhurst, at that time tenant of Newtimber.⁷⁶ The subsequent history of this fee is unknown.

The church of *ST. JOHN THE CHURCH EVANGELIST* stands on the opposite side of the road to Newtimber Place, and about 300 yards south-east of it. It consists of a nave and chancel under one roof, west tower, north chapel, and a vestry on the south side of the chancel. The building shows flint facing with stone dressings.

The nave and chancel are probably of the 13th century or possibly earlier, but were so restored in 1875 as to obliterate all old features.⁷⁷ The west tower was added in 1839 to replace a timber bell-cote, and was restored at the end of the century. The north chapel⁷⁸ also dates from 1839 and the vestry from 1893. The pulpit is formed of panelling of foreign appearance, and somewhat altered, but believed to be Elizabethan,⁷⁹ arranged to form a polygonal front, the whole raised on a modern stone base.

There is one 18th-century bell by Thomas Lester, undated.⁸⁰

The church plate consists of a silver communion cup of 1839; a paten of 1709; a silver flagon of 1896; a cup, paten, and flagon of Sheffield plate; and a pewter alms-dish dated 1719.⁸¹

The registers date from 1558.

By 1281-2 John de Bohun was *ADVOWSON* holding the advowson of Newtimber, which was not included in the grants to John de Bocking or to the Bishop of Durham,⁸² and the advowson subsequently descended with the manor, being shared during the time when Newtimber was held in moieties.⁸³ In 1839 it was left by Charles Gordon in trust for his younger son Arthur Pitman Gordon,⁸⁴ who was succeeded by his daughter Mrs. Ethel Hort. The rectory was united with that of Pyecombe (q.v.) in February 1933, when it was arranged that patronage of the joint benefice should be exercised alternately by Mrs. Hort and the Lord Chancellor.⁸⁵

POYNINGS

Punnings (xiii cent.); Ponynges (xiv-xvi cent.).

The parish of Poynings—the name is pronounced Punnings—covers a rectangle, 3 miles in length and averaging $\frac{3}{4}$ mile in width, lying due north and south, between the parishes of Fulking and Newtimber, and covering 1,642 acres. The south of the parish is all Downland and sheep-pasture, but the northern half is agricultural land, farmed from Poynings Grange Farm. South of the village a deep coombe, known as the Devil's

Dyke, cuts into the escarpment, sweeping round towards the west and almost isolating a 700-ft.-high hill-top known as the Dyke Hill, which is surmounted by an Early Iron Age fortified town of considerable size. The neck of the promontory is crossed by a deep ditch with a strong rampart within it, and the end of the spur, 3 furlongs away, is similarly protected; the flanks are protected with weaker defences. The lateral ramparts are about a furlong apart, and the town extended over

⁵⁸ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* viii, 508.

⁵⁹ *Cal. Close*, 1396-9, p. 261; the Richard, Earl of Arundel, whose estates were forfeit succeeded to the title in 1376: *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), i, 244.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 21 Ric. II, no. 137, m. 11.

⁶¹ *Feud. Aids*, v, 162.

⁶² *Cf. Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxvi, 187-9.

⁶³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xvi, g. 947 (43); *Pat. R.* 33 Hen. VIII, pt. ii.

⁶⁴ *See Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxvi, 190-4.

⁶⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiii, 134.

⁶⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), cccliii, 80; *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ix, 100; *cf. Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxvi, 192-3.

⁶⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 27.

⁶⁸ *Cf. Recov. R. Trin.* 33 & 34 Geo. II, ro. 159; *Trin.* 3 Geo. III, ro. 399; *Trin.* 7 Geo. III, ro. 281.

⁶⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxvi, 196.

⁷⁰ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ix, 103.

⁷¹ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxvi, 191-2.

⁷² *Ibid.*

⁷³ *Ibid.*; *cf. G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), v, 37; vii, 505.

⁷⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxvi, 191-2.

⁷⁵ *Cal. Pat.* 1358-61, p. 535.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷⁷ See drawing of this church in 1805 in the Sharpe Collection of Views of Sussex

Churches in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries.

⁷⁸ Nathaniel Newnham, lord of the manor, was granted a faculty to build a vault and chapel on the north of the chancel in 1756: *Add. MS.* 39449, fol. 58.

⁷⁹ *Bond, Pulpits, Lecterns, and Organs*, 140.

⁸⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 219.

⁸¹ *Ibid.* liv, 242.

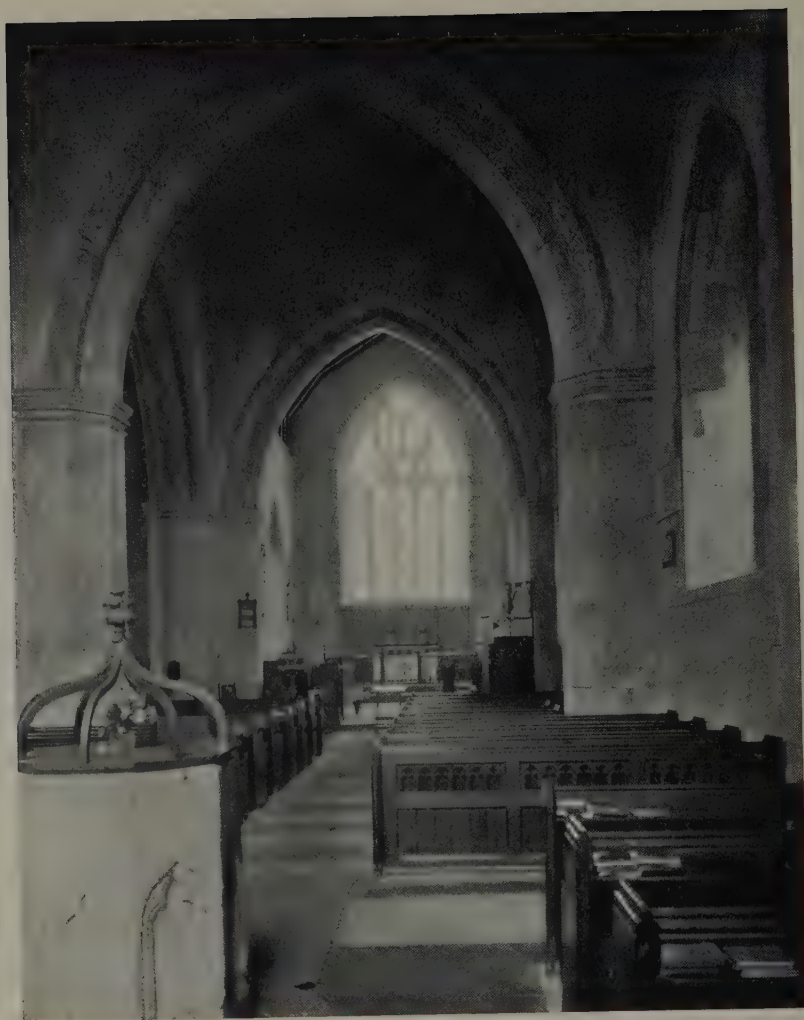
⁸² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii, 946, 1018.

⁸³ *Ibid.* xx, 319; *Recov. R. Trin.* 14 Hen. VIII, ro. 126; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁸⁴ *Add. MS.* 39469. ⁸⁵ *Ex. inf.* the Rev. G. T. Ritherdon, Rector of Newtimber with Pyecombe.



NEWTIMBER CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, c. 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



POYNINGS CHURCH: INTERIOR, LOOKING EAST

about 30 acres. The Downs to the west of the town are covered with the fields of the ancient inhabitants,¹ whose water-supply appears to have been the spring at the foot of the Dyke coombe. A bostal slants down the south side of this from fields to spring, and this route is supposed to have later formed part of the route of a Roman road across the Downs at this point.² A golf course has now been laid out over the old field-sites, and a hotel built within the ramparts of the ancient hill-town.

The village of Poynings lies at the mouth of the coombe, having apparently been founded on the stream which flows thence and still works a mill at the northern end of the village. Most of the cottages are, however, along the road leaving the centre of the village westwards towards Fulking, although there are also a few scattered cottages round the mill. The population in 1931 was 300. The early medieval fields appear to have been east of the village, where lynchets of this period may yet be seen. Close under these, adjoining a modern farm-house, are the remains of the manor-house, known as Poynings Place. This was destroyed by fire in 1727, the ruins eventually collapsing about 1823.³ The sole remains visible to-day are some shapeless fragments of flint walling with brick dressings, apparently of the 16th century, one of them containing the remains of a fire-place. A few medieval moulded stones may be seen lying in the farm-house garden. The Roman road down the Devil's Dyke is believed to pass just east of the site of the manor-house.

The manor of *POYNINGS* was probably identical with 8 hides held in 1086 of William de Warenne by William son of Rainald,⁴ who may be identified with Rainald de Poynings son of Reiner.⁵

The overlordship descended with the rape, falling to Elizabeth, Lady Bergavenny, in 1439.⁶ By the middle of the 16th century the manor had ceased to be held of the barony of Lewes and was held directly of the king.⁷ Adam de Poynings and his wife Beatrice were holding land at Poynings about 1140.⁸ They had a son Adam.⁹ In 1242-3 Thomas de Poynings held Poynings and its members as 10 knights' fees,¹⁰ and was succeeded by his son Luke, who was holding Poynings in 1284-5,¹¹ and died in 1294.¹² Michael son and heir of Luke died in 1316, in which year his widow Margery was holding Poynings.¹³ In 1339 Thomas, Michael's heir and first

holder of the barony of Poynings, created in 1337, died seised of the manor, which descended to his son Michael,¹⁴ who died in March 1369.¹⁵ His widow Joan held the manor as dower till her death a few months later,¹⁶ and it passed subsequently to her son Thomas who died in 1375 having settled the manor on his wife Blanche for life.¹⁷ It does not, however, appear among her possessions at her death in 1409.¹⁸ Thomas's heir was his young brother Richard,¹⁹ who held the manor until 1387.²⁰ His widow Isabel held $\frac{1}{2}$ as her dower until her death in 1394.²¹ Richard's son Robert died in 1446,²² and since his only son Richard had died in 1430,²³ the manor passed to Richard's daughter Eleanor, wife of Henry Percy son and heir of Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland.²⁴ Subsequently the lordship of Poynings became merged in the earldom of Northumberland. Eleanor died in 1484²⁵ and her son Henry Percy the 4th earl, who died in 1489,²⁶ bequeathed the manor and lordship of Poynings to his youngest son Josceline 'to the intent that the said Gosslyne shall be of loving and lowly disposition towards the said Henry his [eldest] brother and give him his allegiance'.²⁷ In 1514, however, the manor was conveyed by Henry, Earl of Northumberland, and his wife Katherine to trustees,²⁸ and in 1523 the same earl leased it to George Gyfford for 21 years, for £56 a year.²⁹ This lease was confirmed and extended for 5 years by the next earl, Henry, in 1527.³⁰ In 1531 this Henry, 5th Earl of Northumberland, appears to have mortgaged the estate to Sir Edward Seymour³¹ and in 1535 conveyed it to trustees for the use of the king,³² who in June 1536 appointed Sir Nicholas Carew as chief steward, receiver, and surveyor



POYNINGS. Barry or and vert a bend gules.



PERCY. Or a lion azure.



BROWNE. Sable three lions passant bendwise between double cotises argent.

there.³³ In December 1537 the king granted the reversion of the manor to Sir Anthony Browne and his wife Alice, with remainder to his heirs male, Browne having come to some agreement with Carew before the attainder of the latter.³⁴ Browne died in 1548 holding the manor.³⁵ His eldest son and heir Anthony Browne,

¹ See paper by G. A. Holleyman in *Antiquity*, ix, map opposite p. 448.

² *Brighton and Hove Archaeologist*, iii, map opposite p. 40.

³ The last portion to fall is said to have been the entrance porch, a lofty tower of two or three stories: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 52.

⁴ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 440. Cola held it of Earl Godwin.

⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii, 13; Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 327.

⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 190.

⁷ Cf. *ibid.* xx, 348, 360; xxxiv, 196.

⁸ *Ibid.* xxxviii, 30.

⁹ *Ibid.* Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 14^{et seq.}

¹⁰ *Bk. of Fees*, ii, 690.

¹¹ *Feud. Aids*, v, 129.

¹² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 14.

¹³ *Ibid.*; *Feud. Aids*, v, 136.

¹⁴ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* viii, 231; *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 103; *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vi, 299.

¹⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 43 Edw. III, pt. 2, 1st nos. 14.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* 15.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* 49 Edw. III, pt. 2, 1st nos. 27.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 10 Hen. IV, no. 48.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* 49 Edw. III, pt. 2, 1st nos. 27; cf. *Cal. Pat.* 1377-81, p. 392.

²⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 11 Ric. II, no. 43. He had granted annual rent from the manor to Agnes daughter of Sir Robert Northwode for life: *ibid.* 12 Ric. II, no. 148; *Cal. Pat.* 1388-92, pp. 233, 238.

²¹ *Ibid.* 17 Ric. II, no. 46.

²² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 25 Hen. VI, no. 24; cf. *Feud. Aids*, v, 162.

²³ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (1st ed.),

vi, 300.

²⁴ *Ibid.*; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 25 Hen. VI, no. 24; *Cal. Close*, 1429-35, p. 363.

²⁵ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 2 Ric. III, no. 26.

²⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 779.

²⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 11. Cf. *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 196.

²⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 347.

²⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xii (2), g. 1311 (34); cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 18 note.

³⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xii (2), g. 1311 (34).

³¹ *Ibid.* v, 395, xii (2), 398.

³² *Ibid.* xii (2), g. 1311 (34); *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 348; *Cal. Anc.* D. iii, A. 4104; *Close R.* 26 Hen. VIII, m. 11.

³³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, x, g. 1256 (37).

³⁴ *Ibid.* xii (2), g. 1311 (34); xviii (2), 231, p. 123.

³⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 179.

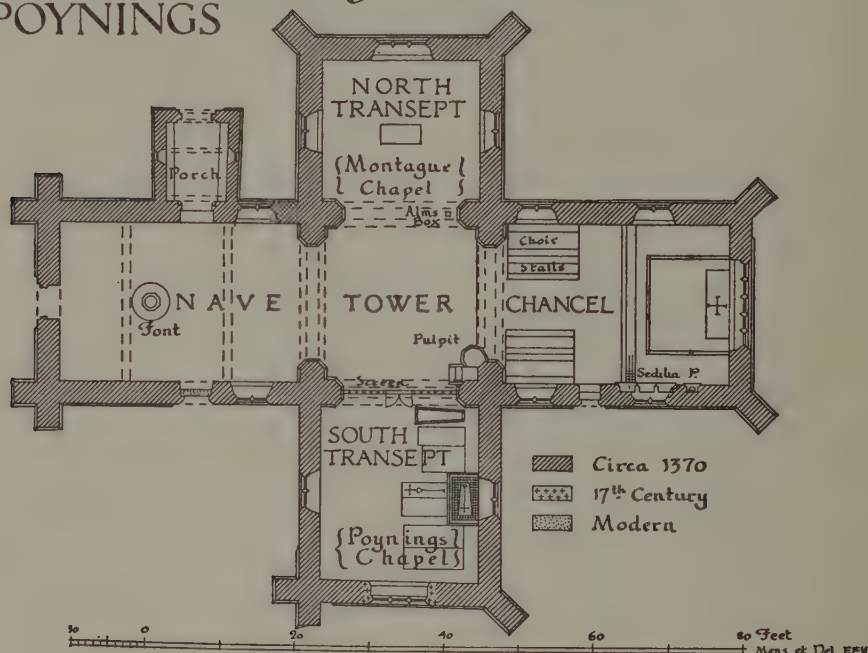
A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

owner of Battle Abbey and Cowdray Park, was created Viscount Montagu in 1554, and the estate descended in the family until the death, without heirs, of Mark Anthony Browne, 9th viscount, in 1797, when Poynings reverted to the Crown.³⁶ Elizabeth Mary Browne, sister of the 8th viscount, married William Stephen Poyntz,³⁷ and in 1804 they were granted a 31 years' lease of the manor.³⁸ On the lapse of this lease the Crown resumed the manor and in default of an heir administered it through the Office of Works.³⁹ It is still the property of the Crown.

There was a *PARK* pertaining to the manor of Poynings at least as early as 1339.⁴⁰ It appears to have

buttresses are in pairs. The west window of the nave is three-light, with a traceried head in a style approaching that of the 15th century, having vertical super-lights, with trefoiled heads to match the main lights, and simple spandrels. Below it is the west door, which has a simple pointed arch with no imposts and a compound moulding carried all round it. There is a hood-moulding. The north and south doorways of the nave are similar, but the former has a more elaborate moulding passing round it. The south doorway is now blocked. The nave has a window on either side, immediately east of the doorway, each consisting of two lights with trefoiled ogee heads and two super-lights, in the same

PARISH CHURCH of HOLY TRINITY POYNINGS



descended with the manor, and in 1387 John Wymbissh, one of the yeomen of the king's chamber, was appointed to the custody of it during the minority of Robert, Lord Poynings.⁴¹

There were two mills at Poynings in 1086⁴² and in 1339;⁴³ and in 1369 it was noted that they were idle in the summer for want of water.⁴⁴

The parish church of the *HOLY CHURCH TRINITY*,⁴⁵ which is mentioned in

Domesday Book, stands on the hill-side at the mouth of the Devil's Dyke coombe. The building was practically entirely reconstructed by Thomas de Poynings and his brother Richard about 1370, and remains to-day very much as left by them. On plan it is cruciform, with a central tower. There are no aisles, but the nave has a contemporary north porch. The material is flint rubble with stone dressings.

The angles all have buttresses, those to the north transept and chancel being diagonal, as is also the eastern buttress of the south transept. The remaining

style as the west window. There is a head-mould with horizontal stops. Two-light windows of this description exist on either side of each arm of the church, the chancel having two in each of its side walls. The north window of the transept is similar to the west window of the nave already described. The south transept window is of 17th-century date, having three un-cusped lights, their springing-line marked by small octagonal caps of pseudo-Classical design. The pointed head of the window is filled with reticulated tracery without cusps. This window, the only inserted feature in the church, was brought from Chichester Cathedral at the middle of the last century. The east window is a large five-light of almost 15th-century type, with lofty vertical super-lights, trefoil-headed to match the main lights, under a tall pointed head. At the head of the centre main light is a small sex-foil, and another occurs at the apex of the window. There is a hood-mould, above which is a stone shield carved with the Poynings arms: barry of six (or and vert) a bend (gules). At the

³⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 19; *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ix, 103. He was the 4th cousin once removed of George Samuel Browne, 8th viscount.

³⁷ *Ibid.* note.

³⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 19.

³⁹ *Ibid.* Cf. *Add. MS.* 39500.

⁴⁰ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* viii, 231.

⁴¹ *Cal. Pat.* 1385-9, p. 347.

⁴² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 440.

⁴³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 13 Edw. III, no. 37.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.* 43 Edw. III, pt. 2, no. 15.

⁴⁵ The church is described in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 1-49.

apex of the chancel gable is a small quatrefoiled aperture. Between the two windows on the south side of the chancel is a small priest's doorway with a simple wave moulding passing around jambs and pointed head, and a hood-mould. The central tower is plain and unbuttressed. It has an embattled parapet concealing the roof, the belfry stage is lit by a small trefoil-headed light in each wall, and the ringing-floor has a similar light to north and south, placed out of centre to clear the transept roofs. The porch doorway has a simple pointed arch without imposts, and a heavy moulding passing around it on both the external and interior faces. In the porch gable is a stone shield bearing the Poynings arms. The hood-mould over the arch is continued at springing-level along the gable wall of the porch.

The interior masonry of the church is almost featureless except for the arches of the crossing. These rise from semi-octagonal responds with simple ogee-splayed bases, and caps with scroll-roll abaci and necking and a simple unornamented bell. The arches are in two orders with plain chamfers. The south-east window of the chancel is raised to accommodate the sedilia and piscina. The former is triple, with the seats all on the same level under trefoiled ogee heads, rather debased to suit the rectangular frame in which all three are inclosed. The piscina is similar in style, although not joined, to the sedilia, and has a credence-shelf. There is another small piscina in the south transept. The roofs of this church have been much restored. That of the south transept had been lowered at some period, being restored to its original height in 1903. In this transept is part of a tie-beam inscribed 'Francis Killingbecke, 1625', which may refer to the date when the roof was lowered. The nave roof was restored in 1926.

The south transept is known as the Poynings Chapel, and is inclosed by a good oak screen, apparently contemporary with the church, which may have originally been the rood-screen in the eastern arch of the crossing. It is in excellent condition, with a central double door and four side bays, the lower portions of which are solid and the upper each divided into three lights with elaborately foliated heads. The base of the altar remains in the chapel, which may be on the site of the chancel of the earlier church,⁴⁶ as the east wall suggests a 13th-century date and shows on its exterior face the jamb of a window, apparently part of a couplet of large lancets. This wall is the only one in the church which has no plinth and is not properly faced with knapped flints.

The altar base is paved with 13th-century encaustic tiles, in which is set a contemporary tomb-slab said to have been found in the churchyard. West of this is a series of old tomb-slabs, apparently in their original positions.⁴⁷ The northernmost is a good hog-backed slab with a foliated cross, raised on a low tomb but now broken into fragments. Next to it is a flat slab which shows signs of having had a very elaborate heraldic brass upon it. One tomb has a carved foliated cross and a matrix for a shield and has a border containing an incised inscription in Lombardic characters commemorating the 'Damette de Bissel'. In the north

transept flooring is a tomb-slab having a matrix for what appears to be a calvary.

The altar in the chancel is inclosed on three sides by balustered rails of mid-17th-century date, west of which may be seen some 13th-century encaustic tiles, some of them heraldic, laid in the modern flooring. The pulpit dates from about 1600. It has lost its sounding board, but the back, with two caryatid figures, remains. The chancel pewing seems partly of this period. The west door has the carved date 1608. The



POYNINGS CHURCH: THE PULPIT AND SCREEN

font is of unusual form, being a plain octagonal prism with trefoiled ogee-headed panels around the base but a perfectly plain upper part.

The tower contains one bell of early-14th-century date, cast by Richard de Wimbis, and another dated 1715.⁴⁸

The church possesses a communion cup bearing the mark for 1567, with paten cover; and a paten and flagon both of 1884.⁴⁹

The registers date from 1558.

There was a church in Poynings in *ADVOWSON* 1086.⁵⁰ It was granted to the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes, and in about 1095 William II Earl Warenne confirmed this grant.⁵¹ A further confirmation in about 1140 covered church and tithes, which were said to have been granted by Adam de Poynings, his wife Beatrice, and their son Adam.⁵² The advowson was, however, held with the manor at least from 1339.⁵³ Henry, Earl of Northumberland, was holding it in 1514,⁵⁴ and it appears to have

⁴⁶ Presumably preserved so as not to disturb the Poynings' graves within it.

⁴⁷ About 1800 they were torn up and used for a partition, shutting off the transept from the church; some fifty years later they were replaced under the direction of

the workman who had originally moved them: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 37.

⁴⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 221; lvii, 6.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.* liv, 244.

⁵⁰ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 440.

⁵¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii, 21, 30.

⁵² *Ibid.* xl, 61.

⁵³ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* viii, 231. Cf. *Cal. Pat.* 1388-92, pp. 19, 389; *ibid.* 1399-1401, p. 262.

⁵⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 347.

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passed with the manor to the Crown in 1535.⁵⁵ From 1554 the patronage remained with the Viscounts Montagu, but as they adhered to the Roman Church the actual presentations were often made by their assigns.⁵⁶ By 1807 the advowson was in the hands of the Crown,⁵⁷ and it is still in the gift of the Lord Chancellor.⁵⁸

The *CHANTRY OF ST. MARY* was founded by one of the Poynings family in about 1375 in the south transept of the parish church, where it stood in 1585. At that date there pertained to the chantry 5 acres in the

parish of Poynings and lands in Pyecombe containing 5 closes, 100½ sheep leases, and 6 cow leases. The profits then were remembered to have always belonged to the parson⁵⁹ of Poynings, but a witness who had known the parish of Poynings for 60 years deposed that he did not remember any masses being read in the chantry aisle.⁶⁰ In 1834 the estate of the chantry in Pyecombe was estimated at 70 acres.⁶¹ The advowson of the chantry was held in dower by Isabel widow of Sir Richard de Poynings until her death in 1394,⁶² and descended with the manor.

PYECOMBE

Picumba (xi cent.); Piccumbe (xiii cent.); Pykecombe, Pycombe (xvi cent.).

The small river Wellesbourne, to-day shrunken to inconsiderable proportions, seems once to have flowed down a long deep coombe to reach the sea at Brighton. The parish of Pyecombe covers an irregularly shaped area, 2,286 acres in extent, inclosing the head of this coombe and the Downs to east and west. In the north-west corner of the parish is Wolstonbury Hill, 677 ft. in height, and the Downs on the eastern side of the parish rise to over 700 ft. They are penetrated by a small lateral coombe containing the farm of Pangdean. With the exception of this and a farm in the village, the parish is mostly chalk Downland utilized only for pasturage. On the summit of Wolstonbury Hill is a fortified hill-town, of the Early Iron Age, to the east of which are traces of early field systems. Among these has been found a late Romano-British settlement, originally approached by a deeply sunken trackway.¹ There is a solitary barrow on the hill-top.

An ancient road crosses the parish from the col between Wolstonbury Hill and the Downs above Clayton, skirts the eastern flank of the former in a series of deeply-cut terrace-ways, and descends the coombe to climb Newtimber Hill at the south-western corner of the parish on its way to Saddlescombe. The medieval village may have been on this road, near the point where the church now stands, overlooking the head of the coombe, in the very centre of the parish. Pyecombe, however, appears to have declined towards the end of the medieval period, and there is some indication that after the 15th century the village was revived a quarter of a mile westwards of the earlier site, and on the col dividing Wolstonbury from Newtimber Hill. The present village, which in 1931 contained 313 inhabitants, is thus in two portions. To the north of the church is the smithy, notable for its production of a famous type of sheep-crooks, but showing no signs of antiquity, and a few early-17th-century cottages, now deserted and falling to ruin. Nearby are a few modern cottages.

The greater portion of the village, however, is formed by a group of cottages a quarter of a mile west of this. Several of these are of 17th-century date, and one, now known as No. 12, is of particular interest, being a fragment of a large house, possibly the manor-house, of mid-

or late-16th-century date. Only one room remains complete, and this has a good timber ceiling in two bays, separated by a heavily-moulded beam, and having the joists all stop-chamfered. In the north-east corner is a doorway having moulded jambs and head; this is now filled by a smaller modern door, and adjoins the chimney-stack, itself apparently an insertion. The outer walls are half-timber in large square panels with a few wind-braces. The site of another room remains to the east side, but it has nearly all been rebuilt, although the old timbering may be clearly seen on the north side of the upper floor.

On the east side of the village is the Old Rectory, a large 18th-century building of no architectural interest. On the south side of the parish is Pangdean farm-house, which shows no traces of antiquity. The main road from Brighton passes to the west of the house, dividing just south of Pyecombe church into three roads, the western, which is the main London road, to Newtimber and Bolney, the eastern to Clayton and Haywards Heath. The middle road is the old trackway passing the church, just north of which is another road joining all three. An inn stands at the road junction south of the church.

The manor of *PYECOMBE* may have *MANORS* derived from one or both of the two manors of Pangdean held in 1086 by William son of Rainald of Earl Warenne.² Thomas de Poynings, a successor of William son of Rainald, held land at Pyecombe in 1248.³ In 1284 Luke de Poynings, and in 1316 Margery widow of Michael de Poynings, were returned as holding Pyecombe of the Earl Warenne by military service.⁴ By July 1316, however, a manor of Pyecombe was held in demesne by John de Warenne,⁵ and it continued in the hands of the lords of the rape, passing to the Duke of Norfolk in 1439,⁶ and coming eventually in 1476 to Elizabeth, Duchess of Norfolk, after the death of her husband.⁷ Pyecombe was one of the manors which, in consideration of the marriage of her infant daughter Anne with Richard son of Edward IV, she surrendered to the queen in 1478.⁸ It does not, however, appear to have been among those settled on the young Richard,⁹ nor is it to be found among the possessions of the four heirs to the Mowbray half of the barony after his death in 1483.¹⁰

⁵⁵ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, ix, 406.

⁵⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 31; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁵⁸ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

⁵⁹ The chantry was only annexed to the rectory in 1525, when the smallness of its revenues had led to the decay of its services and of the transept chapel: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 26-8.

⁶⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxvi, 167-9.

⁶¹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 176.

⁶² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 17 Ric. II, no. 46. Cf. also *Cal. Pat.* 1388-92, pp. 44, 83; *Cal. Close*, 1392-6, p. 193.

¹ See *Antiquity*, ix, 452.

² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 440; cf. Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 327.

³ *Close R.* 1247-51, p. 122. Cf. Farrer,

Honors and Knights' Fees, iii, 327.

⁴ *Feud. Aids*, v, 129, 136-7. Cf. Pangdean, below.

⁵ *Cal. Pat.* 1313-17, p. 483; *Cat. Anct. D.* iii, A. 5917.

⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 187.

⁷ *Ibid.* xxiii, 3212.

⁸ *Ibid.*; *Rot. Parl.* (Rec. Com.), vi, 169.

⁹ *Ibid.* 168-9. ¹⁰ See under rape.

A reference to a manor of 'Picombe *alias* Pingdeane', held by Viscount Montagu,¹¹ suggests that by this time the manor had become merged in that of Pangdean (q.v.). In the early 19th century it was said that Pyecombe had not been reckoned as a manor in the memory of man, but that it lay in the manors of Pangdean, Clayton, Poynings, and Saddlescombe.¹²

There were two manors of *PANGDEAN*¹³ in 1086, both of them held by William son of Rainald of Earl Warenne. One, assessed at 10 hides, was held before the Conquest by Levfel of King Edward; the other, of 9 hides, was held by Oswald of the same king.¹⁴ To what extent the later manor was derived from these it seems impossible to decide.¹⁵ The overlordship descended with the rape along with the manor of Pyecombe, being held in 1455 by John, Duke of Norfolk,¹⁶ but by the beginning of the 16th century the manor appears to have become separated from the barony of Lewes.

Pangdean was held by Thomas de Poynings on his death in 1339, by the service of inclosing 2 perches round Earl Warenne's park at Ditchling and $\frac{1}{2}$ perch round the park of Cuckfield. There were 3 acres of park attached to the manor.¹⁷ It descended with the manor of Poynings (q.v.),¹⁸ lapsing to the Crown in 1797, after which a lease of the manor farm was made to William Stephen Poyntz and his wife, who were still tenants in 1834.

Soon after the Conquest, land in Standean¹⁹ [Standena (xi cent.); Staunden (xiii cent.); Standen (xv cent.)] was held by Fredesend daughter of Hugh son of Rainer.²⁰ Early in the 13th century land in Standean was held in fee by Robert de Freavill, a Norman, of Earl Warenne, who in 1228 was permitted to resume possession of it.²¹ Very soon afterwards the earl appears to have bestowed the land as half a knight's fee upon William de Munceus or Monceux, possibly a descendant of Edith daughter of the 1st William de Warenne and his wife Gundrada.²² The overlordship of this half-fee devolved in 1439 upon the Duke of Norfolk,²³ and was still held by his successor, the Earl of Arundel, in 1465.²⁴ After that its history is uncertain, though about 1625 it still owed suit at the castle of Lewes.²⁵

After being in the tenancy of William de Monceux in the 13th century, *STANDEAN*, now referred to as a manor, was in 1448 settled upon Philippa, younger daughter of Sir Thomas Dacre, and her husband Robert Fiennes, with remainder to the elder daughter Joan wife of Richard Fiennes.²⁶



FIENNES. *Azure three lions or.*

Joan survived her husband and died holding the manor in 1487.²⁷ The manor subsequently descended as Hurstpierpoint (q.v.), being held in 1571 by Gregory Fiennes, Lord Dacre.²⁸

Meanwhile, however, Thomas Nudygatt or Newdegate was seised at the time of his death in 1559 of the tenement of 'Haselholte otherwise called Standen'.²⁹ His heir in 1575 was holding a free tenement containing about 56 acres and a sheep pasture called Standen in Pyecombe of Francis Carew, the lord of the manor of Plumpton and son of Sir Nicholas Carew, who held Pangdean as Receiver of the Crown.³⁰ This had formerly, it is said, been held 'by copy of Court Roll'.³¹ The link between the Dacre and Carew ownership does not appear.

In 1617 Francis More died seised of a messuage and lands called 'Haselholt *alias* Standen' in the parish of Pyecombe and was succeeded by his son Thomas³² who was subsequently included among the free suitors of Lewes Castle for lands called *UPPER STANDEAN* in Piecombe, formerly of Lord Dacre and once held by William Monceux as half a knight's fee.³³

Lower Standean, in the parish of Ditchling, is mentioned in 1537.³⁴

The hamlet of Standean is now owned by Capt. George Bernard Nickson.

Pyecombe Church, of which the invocation is unknown, stands in an isolated position on the southern slopes of Wolstonbury Hill and on the west side of the ancient way, which crosses its eastern end. The church consists of nave, chancel, and western tower, a north porch, and a small modern vestry north of the chancel arch. The whole building is covered with rough-cast, and the stone-work of the windows is all modern. It is thus difficult to date the portions of the church with certainty, but from internal evidence it would appear that nave and chancel are 12th century and the western tower 13th century. The nave has two windows on either side, each being a 15th-century two-light window in a rectangular frame with a label-mould, all the stone-work being a renewal. A similar window in the west wall of the tower lights the tower space, and the east window was originally of this form.³⁵ The chancel has two single-light windows on either side. The westernmost of these may be copies of early-14th-century originals, but the eastern windows are almost certainly modern copies of their neighbours replacing the original 12th-century windows. The east window is modern pseudo-Norman. The tower is small and plain, except for two very large buttresses supporting the western angles, probably additions of the 14th century or later. Part of a 13th-century tombstone has been built into

¹¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 2, 76.

¹² Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 182.

¹³ Pinchedene, Pinhedene, Pinwedene (xi cent.); Pengedene (xv cent.).

¹⁴ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 440.

¹⁵ Cf. Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 327.

¹⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 33 Hen. VI, no. 35.

¹⁷ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* viii, 231; *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 82. This may be the land previously held as 'Pikcomb' or 'Picomb' by Michael and Margery de Poynings in 1284 and 1316 respectively: *Feud. Aids*, v, 129, 136.

¹⁸ See references quoted under Poynings; also *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxvii, 256.

¹⁹ Upper Standean lies in Pyecombe parish and Lower Standean in that of

Ditchling: Tithe Map of 1840 in possession of the Rev. G. T. Ritherdon, Rector of Newtimber with Pyecombe.

²⁰ *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii), 13. Cf. Hugh son of Rannulf lord of Plumpton, who may be identical with this Hugh: *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 392 n., 441.

²¹ *Pat. R.* 1225-32, p. 190.

²² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 189, 192, 196. One authority gives it as $\frac{1}{2}$ fee in 'Herst': *Bk. of Fees*, 691; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lviii, 64. Edith married Drogo de Monceux.

²³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 189; cf. *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 18 Hen. VI, no. 28.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 4 Edw. IV, no. 72.

²⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 196.

²⁶ Feet of F. Div. Co. East. 26 Hen. VI, no. 63. For connexions between the

families of Monceux, Hoo, Fiennes, Dacre, and also Carew see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* viii, 108, &c.; lviii, 64, &c.; lix, 128-9.

²⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv, 437. The manor is here called 'Standon *alias* Standen'.

²⁸ *Ibid.* xix, 83.

²⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvi, 27-8.

³⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, x, g. 1256 (37); cf. *ibid.* xiv (2), g. 113 (5).

³¹ *Suss. N. & Q.* iii, 139, from Add. MS. 37688.

³² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), ccclxxix, 93.

³³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 196.

³⁴ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 182 note; cf. *Pl. Names Suss.* ii, 302.

³⁵ See the Sharpe Collection of Views of Sussex Churches.

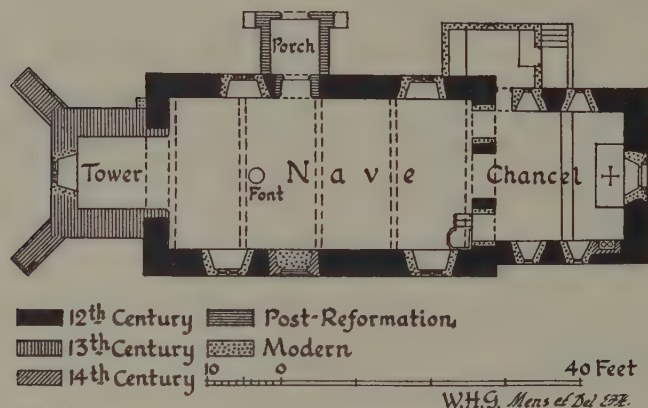
A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

the lower part of the south buttress. The tower has a simple pyramidal roof of low pitch, and its upper stages are lit by very small windows, appearing to-day merely as holes through the rough-cast facing. The upper half of the blocked early-14th-century south doorway of the nave remains externally as a shallow recess with a segmental head. The north porch is very plain, with a Horsham stone roof and a simple pointed-arched doorway, probably of post-Reformation date.³⁶ Within it is the north doorway of the nave, a simple pointed arch-

The tower contains one old bell, invoking St. Katherine, and believed to date from the 15th century.³⁷

The church possesses a much-altered communion cup, the stem of which is Elizabethan, possibly of the year 1568, the bowl 17th century, and the foot probably 18th century; the paten cover may be Elizabethan; there are also a chalice and flagon of 1883; a paten of 1854; a pewter flagon dated 1733; and a pewter plate given in 1765.³⁸

PARISH CHURCH PYECOMBE



way, the stones of which have all been coarsely re-tooled and given draughted margins. Its scionson arch is segmental and similarly tooled.

The lofty tower arch is plain and has neither responds nor imposts. The chancel arch is 12th-century and quite plain, the semicircular arch rising from simple impost mouldings which have been entirely re-tooled, as has the whole of the arch and its responds, with coarse chiselling and draughted margins. On either side of the arch are lateral arches, apparently entirely modern. In the usual position in the chancel is a good piscina of 14th-century date, with an elaborately foliated ogee head and double basins, fluted internally. The font has a lead bowl, of late-12th-century date, with elaborate patterning of scroll-work. The base is modern. The church was restored in 1844, 1897, and again in 1914.

The registers begin in 1561.

The church of 'Pingedon' was *ADVOWSON* granted to the Priory of St. Pancras at Lewes by Adam de Poynings and his wife Beatrice, and this grant was confirmed by successive Earls Warenne in about 1095 and 1140.³⁹ Another Adam de Poynings in 1180 renounced to the same priory all his rights in the church of Pyecombe,⁴⁰ and in 1272-3 Luke de Poynings made a similar renunciation.⁴¹ It would appear that all these grants refer to the same church, which continued in the hands of the priory until, as the church of Pyecombe, it was surrendered to the king in 1537.⁴² In 1538 it was granted to Thomas Cromwell,⁴³ but returned again to the Crown, in whose hands it remained.⁴⁴ The living was annexed in 1933 to Newtimber (q.v.) and is now in the gift of the Lord Chancellor and Mrs. Hort alternately.

³⁶ In 1609 it was presented that the east wall of the church was in part fallen down and two porches were much decayed: Add. MS. 39447, fol. 41.

³⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 151, 220.

³⁸ *Ibid.* liv, 245.

³⁹ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), i, 21, 30; ii, 61; cf. *ibid.* 125.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* 55.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*

⁴² *Ibid.* xx, 426-7.

⁴³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xliii (2), g. 384 (74).

⁴⁴ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).



PYECOMBE CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, 1802
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)



PATCHAM CHURCH: 'THE DOOM'

THE HUNDRED OF DEAN

CONTAINING THE PARISH OF

PATCHAM

THERE was no Dean Hundred at the time of the Domesday Survey and Patcham was then in Preston Hundred.¹ Subsequently, from at least 1296² to 1665³ if not later, Patcham was included in Whalesbone Hundred (q.v.). From at least the early 17th century there was in this hundred a 'Constable of the Deane' whose duty it was to act as assistant to the constable of Brighthelmeston (the other 'borrowe' of Whalesbone Hundred) 'for dispatch of business in Pecham Burrowe.'⁴ By 1724 the hundred of Dean was in existence and consisted of the parishes of Patcham and West Blatchington, according to Budgen's map; but, if this is correct, the latter parish must soon afterwards have reverted to Whalesbone Hundred.

¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 436 a.

³ *Lay Subs.* 258, no. 18.

² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 41.

⁴ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 144.

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PATCHAM

Piceham (xi cent.); Peccham (xii cent.); Pecham, Patcham (xvii cent.).

Patcham is a large parish which now forms part of Brighton, from which it was separated by the parish of Preston. It covers an irregularly shaped area of 4,325 acres in extent, and embraces a series of coombes radiating from the centre of the parish into the Downs which border the valley of the Wellesbourne, rising along its flanks to about the 500-ft. contour. In the south-east corner of the parish is Hollingbury Hill, 583 ft. in height. This is crowned by a large Early Iron Age fortified hill-town of roughly square plan, and covering about 9 acres,¹ to the north of which, on the north-east side of the parish, the slopes of Tegdown Hill are covered with the traces of early field-systems and the remains of ancient settlements.² The parish was until recently mainly agricultural, but the northward development of Preston has engulfed Patcham's southern outpost of Withdean, and is now encroaching on the village itself. Development is also proceeding at Moulsecombe, on the farther side of Hollingbury Hill, where a model village has been completed, lining the coombe towards Bevendean in Falmer Parish. Thus the population of Patcham, which in 1931 was 5,241, is now much above this figure. The parish has now been absorbed into the Borough of Brighton,³ except for the farm of Tongdean in the extreme south-west of the parish, which has been annexed to the Borough of Hove.

There was possibly an old trackway connecting the villages of Portslade, West Blatchington, Patcham, and Stanmer. Along Eastwick Bottom, between the two last-named villages, the track of a sunken road could be clearly seen until a year or two ago. Patcham itself lies at the end of a spur, the village street descending the hill-side towards the bottom of the coombe. At the top of the village is the farm-house of Patcham Court, at one time the manor house, and the large 18th-century mansion called Patcham Place lies at the foot of the hill, whence the village has spread southwards towards Brighton. The early-19th-century Brighton Road was threaded through the lower part of the village, which developed along it, but with the great increase of traffic in recent years Patcham has now been by-passed by a new road west of it.

Patcham Court farm-house is now in a dilapidated condition, but shows traces of having been originally an early-17th-century house of the humbler type. The hall, which has now been divided between two cottages, has an exceptionally large open fire-place. There was apparently only one parlour; that at the lower end, however, may have been destroyed. At the east end of the house is the old brew-house, the fittings of which still remain. South of this is the well, inclosed in a square timber well-house which until recently inclosed the donkey-wheel. This has been destroyed, however, its axle lying outside the south wall of the well-house. A little to the south-west of the house is the pigeon-house, a massive circular structure of flint with heavy

buttresses. The potence remains, and there are still about 550 nesting-boxes, although many have been removed.⁴ On the opposite side of the road east of the house is a large farm, and to the south of this is a very large timber barn, nearly 250 ft. in length.

Withdean Farm, in the south of the parish, has a farm-house showing no traces of antiquity. Moulsecombe Place, in the south-east corner of the parish, is an 18th-century and later building of no interest. A large barn adjoins it on the north-west. At this side of the house are the remains of a half-timber house of about 1500. Part of the north-east side of the house can be seen, and the north corner, but the building is only a fragment of a once larger structure. It is heavily timbered, with large studs set closely together in the walling of the upper floor, which projects on the floor-joists over the wall-face below. The flooring at the remaining angle of the house contains a large dragon beam. The roof and all openings have been renewed, and all the timbers are so badly worm-eaten that the structure appears to be on the verge of complete disintegration.

There was a windmill at Patcham about 1620, held, with land adjoining, by Richard Geeringe.⁵ The present disused tower-mill was built in 1885 at Waterhall, more than 350 ft. above sea-level, by the side of Mill Road leading from Patcham village to the Dyke Road.

The stream called Wellesbourne has its source in Patcham. It exists only in rainy weather, when the well which is its source overflows. Its course is through Preston by the side of the old London Road towards Brighton. Eventually it disappears underground and is carried through a sewer to the sea. During heavy rains in December 1852 the source overflowed and formed a river from Patcham to the north part of Brighton.⁶

In his progress through Sussex in 1302 Edward I stayed at Patcham on 12 September on his way from Beeding to Lewes.⁷ John Peccham, usually, but erroneously, called Peckham, Archbishop of Canterbury (1279-92), who was born in the neighbourhood of Lewes, almost certainly derived his name from this parish.⁸ John Sadler, the Hebrew and oriental scholar (1615-74), was son of a vicar of Patcham and Elizabeth daughter of Henry Shelley of Patcham.⁹ It was owing to Sadler's interest that the Jews obtained the privilege of building a synagogue in London.¹⁰

In the time of King Edward the Con-
MANORS fessor *PATCHAM* was held by Earl Harold. William de Warenne held it in 1086, and its assessment had been reduced from 60 hides to 40. Twenty-six haws in Lewes belonged to this manor and yielded 13s. Seven hides of the manor were held by Richard, and a knight of his held a hide and a half.¹¹

With the exception of the land held by Richard and his knight, Patcham, afterward known as *PATCHAM COURT*, continued as a demesne manor of the Earls Warenne, and descended with the rape until the division in 1439 when the manor was assigned to Joan, Lady

¹ Paper on this in *Antiquaries Journal*, xii, 1.

² See paper by G. A. Holleyman in *Antiquity*, ix, map opposite p. 448.

³ By the Brighton Corporation Act of 1927.

⁴ See *Brighton and Hove Archaeologist*, iii, 138.

⁵ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 71.

⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 247, 248.

⁷ *Ibid.* ii, 153.

⁸ *Reg. Epist. J. Peckham* (Rolls Ser.), i, p. lvii. His name is invariably spelt Peccham or Pecham in contemporary documents.

⁹ *Dict. Nat. Biog.* citing Add. MS. 5851, fol. 12. According to Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 248-9, Elizabeth was the daughter of Richard Shelley.

¹⁰ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 436. See West Blatchington.

Bergavenny;¹² it has descended with her share of the barony to the Marquess of Abergavenny.¹³

An estate in Patcham later known as *PATCHAM PLACE* belonged in the middle of the 16th century to the Shelleys. They apparently acquired it from a family named Scott.¹⁴ Richard Shelley third son of Sir John Shelley of Michelgrove appears to have been settled at Patcham by 1546.¹⁵ He was succeeded in 1552 by a son John, whose will was proved in 1587.¹⁶ Richard son of John was buried at Patcham in October 1594,¹⁷ and his son Henry apparently sold the estate to Anthony Stapley, for in 1620 Anthony was holding at Patcham a capital messuage and 2 virgates of land, late Shelley's.¹⁸ Anthony was also holding under a lease for three lives the demesne land of the manor of Patcham containing a dwelling-house, dove-house, and land adjoining, with three laynes of arable land containing 180 acres, and sufficient pasture for 60 head of cattle and 2,200 sheep, at a yearly rent of £22 13s. 4d.¹⁹ This



STAPLEY. Gules three boars' heads raised in a border engrailed argent.

Anthony Stapley, the regicide, was son of Anthony of Framfield, and came to Patcham about 1615.²⁰ He also held part of an ancient freehold called Ryars²¹ and several customary tenures including Stillmans or Stylemans, Deerings, and Salmans, all in Patcham.²² Anthony Stapley was a prominent Parliamentarian; he acted as governor of Chichester from 1642 to 1645, signed the death-warrant of Charles I, and was a member of the first Council of State of the Commonwealth. He was buried at Patcham on 31 January 1655²³ and his second, but eldest surviving, son John succeeded.²⁴ He was created a baronet in 1660 and obtained a post in the Customs.²⁵ He had no sons, and in 1700 he and his wife Mary and his three daughters, Elizabeth wife of Thomas Briggs, Mary Dobell, widow, and Barbara wife of Meyrick Jenkin, and his granddaughter Barbara only daughter of Peter and Philadelphia Courthope, sold Patcham Place to John Lilley.²⁶ Lilley left it by will in 1707 to his nephew John Allen, who sold it in 1719 to George, Lord Abergavenny, and Anne his wife to her use for her life.²⁷ Anne survived her husband, and in 1744 married John, Lord de la Warr. By a pre-nuptial settlement Patcham Court was settled on Anne, and in the following year Lord de la Warr settled this estate on himself for life with remainder to his sons John and George West in tail male successively.²⁸ He sold it in 1764 to John Paine,²⁹ and it became the seat of the Paine family for several generations. John Paine

died in 1768, and his son John, who succeeded him, died in 1803.³⁰ In 1812 the estate was conveyed by Grace Paine, widow, and John Paine, esq., to Nathaniel Kemp.³¹ Much has been sold, but the rest is now held by the trustees of the late Nathaniel Kemp.

WITHDEAN [Whittadena, Wittedena (xi cent.); Wyghtden, Whigdene, Wyghtden Cayliff (xvi cent.); Wigden, Weighden Keyliffe (xvii cent.)] formed part of the original endowment of Lewes Priory. Two hides there with four villeins and a meadow and also the tithes of Earl Warenne's land were granted by the first earl,³² and his son added half a hide there in exchange for the house of David of London which he had formerly given to the monks, and a virgate for the soul of his mother and 2 hides for part of his father's stock.³³ Richard the archdeacon gave 4 hides there.³⁴ In about 1095 the second William de Warenne confirmed 8 hides in Withdean to the priory.³⁵

Withdean remained in the possession of the priory until 1537, when it was surrendered to the king.³⁶ In the following year it was granted with the other property of the priory to Thomas Cromwell,³⁷ on whose attainder it came again to the Crown, and formed part of the grant to Anne of Cleves in 1541.³⁸

After this *WIGHTDEAN* or *WITHDEAN COURT* was held of the king as of the manor of East Greenwich by Sir John Spencer, who died in 1610.³⁹ It passed to his only child Elizabeth wife of William, Lord Compton,⁴⁰ and they made a conveyance of it in 1612.⁴¹ Charles Callis Western held the manor in 1791⁴² and William Roe bought it from him in 1794;⁴³ it then descended with Withdean Kayliffe.

In 1265 certain lands in Iford, Ditchling, and Withdean were held of Osbert de Kailly by John de la Bise.⁴⁴ These seem in the course of time to have come to the family of Okehurst and to have been used to endow the chantry of William Okehurst in Chichester Cathedral in 1467.⁴⁵ On the suppression of the chantry this land in Withdean was acquired in 1548 by Henry Polsted of Chilworth, Surrey,⁴⁶ who died in 1556 leaving a young son Richard, but bequeathed the manor of *WITHDEAN KAYLIFFE* to his nephew Anthony Elmes,⁴⁷ who conveyed it in 1557 to Richard Polsted, esq.⁴⁸ In 1577-8 Francis Polsted and Audrey his wife, together with Alice Randyll, widow, conveyed it to Brian Annesley.⁴⁹ He died in 1604, holding Withdean Kayliffe of the king as of his manor of Woking in Surrey⁵⁰ and bequeathing it to his elder daughter Grace wife of Sir John Wildgose of Iridge in Salehurst.⁵¹ They settled the manor in 1619 on Anthony May and Alexander Fowle and the heirs of Anthony May.⁵² Sir Annesley Wildgose, son of Sir John, died before his

¹² Chan. Inq. p.m. 18 Hen. VI, no. 28;

Bk. of J. Rowe, 189.

¹³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 6 Edw. IV, no. 65;

16 Edw. IV, no. 66; *ibid.* (Ser. 2), ccxxiii,

58; ccxcix, 157; Pat. 8 Jas. I, pt. lvi.

¹⁴ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 70.

¹⁵ See *Cal. Pat.* 1553, p. 301; *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 247.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁷ *Ibid.* 248.

¹⁸ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 70.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ii, 105.

²¹ Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxvii, 257.

²² *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 71, 72, 73.

²³ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

²⁴ Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* v, 88, 91, for his political activities.

²⁵ G.E.C. *Complete Baronetage*, iii, 97.

²⁶ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 52, and see *Fines*

(*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 340.

²⁷ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 52. Cf. G.E.C.

Complete Peerage (2nd ed.), i, 38-9.

²⁸ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 52.

²⁹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 173. ³⁰ *Ibid.*

³¹ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 340.

³² *Lewes Chart.* i, 2, 4, 11, 25.

³³ *Ibid.* 14, 34.

³⁴ *Ibid.* 13.

³⁵ *Ibid.* 21.

³⁶ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 426.

³⁷ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74).

³⁸ *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

³⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), ccxcviii, 165.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* Cf. *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1598-1601, p. 157; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ix, 677-9.

⁴¹ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 497.

⁴² *Ibid.* 361; *Recov. R. Mich.* 32 Geo. III, ro. 297.

⁴³ *The Private Memorandums of William Roe* (ed. C. Thomas-Stanford), 38.

⁴⁴ Ct. R. (Norfolk muniments). Cf. *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* vii), 711.

⁴⁵ *Cal. Pat.* 1467-77, p. 14; *Chantry Recs.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxvii), 84.

⁴⁶ *Cal. Pat.* 1547-8, p. 282.

⁴⁷ *Inq.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv), 864; *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 221 and note.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*; *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix), 250.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*; *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 188. A Francis Polsted of Albury died about 1578: *Comber, loc. cit.*

⁵⁰ *W. & L. Inq.* p.m. xli, 171.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*; cf. *Inq.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xiv), 1098; *Visit. of Suss.* (*Harl. Soc.*), 208, 209.

⁵² *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix), 251. Audrey, granddaughter of Sir John Wildgose, married Anthony May of Pashley.

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father, leaving a son Robert, who was aged about 19 in 1634,⁵³ but already by 1626 it appears that the manor had been divided among the daughters of Sir John,⁵⁴ since in that year Sir John Fowle and his wife Anne (one daughter) and Sir John Wildgose and his wife Grace made a conveyance of one moiety of Keyliffe *alias* Wightdeane-Keyliffe.⁵⁵ Sir John Fowle died seised of half the manor in 1637, this having been settled by Anne his wife upon their son Annesley.⁵⁶

One-half of a half of the manor was conveyed in 1654 by Sir William Boys or Boyse, of Hawkhurst, Kent, and his wife Cordelia, another daughter, to John Busbridge and William White, and⁵⁷ two years later William and Cordelia, with Robert Fowle, Samuel Boys, John and Thomas Boys, Grace Caldicott, widow, Elizabeth Fowle, widow, and Matthias Caldicott and Cordelia his wife, and others, conveyed half the manor to Roger Shoswell and William Levett.⁵⁸ In 1657 Robert Fowle sold the whole manor to John Raynes and Richard Gunn,⁵⁹ who seem to have divided it. By 1694 Thomas Medley, who had married Susan Raynes, was holding the Raynes moiety, and this descended to George Medley, who was holding it as late as 1786.⁶⁰ The other moiety was in the hands of Thomas Gunn in 1694 and seems to have passed to Henry Farncombe, who held courts in 1720 and 1754; it was sold in 1756 by John and Charles Scrase to Thomas Western, who bequeathed it in 1763 to his son Thomas Walsingham Western.⁶¹ The whole manor was conveyed in 1794 by Thomas Walsingham Western, clerk, and Mary his wife and Charles Callis Western to William Roe, a distinguished Civil Servant.⁶² His son William Thomas Roe was succeeded by his daughter, the wife of Sir Charles Ogle. She died in 1886, and her daughter, Mrs. E. V. M. Curwen, in 1889.⁶³ The whole estate has now been sold for building.

Part of the land which Richard and his knight held at Patcham in 1086 was at *MOULSECOMBE* [Mulescumba (xi cent.); Molescumba (xii cent.); Mowsecombe, Mullyscombe (xvi cent.)]. Richard was later known as Richard the Archdeacon and he gave 1 hide at Moulsecombe to the Priory of Lewes.⁶⁴ William, 2nd Earl Warenne, gave to the monks 3 hides in Moulsecombe and whatever Richard the Archdeacon held of him and his father.⁶⁵ This estate was confirmed to the priory by Ralph, Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1121.⁶⁶ At the Dissolution tithes from Moulsecombe valued at 30s. belonged to the priory.⁶⁷ The prior's possessions in Moulsecombe were granted in 1538 to Thomas Cromwell, and after his forfeiture to Anne of Cleves in 1541.⁶⁸ A farm called Mouscombe belonged to Sir Edward Culpepper, who died in 1630 leaving a son William his heir.⁶⁹

A copyhold estate called Moulsecombe in Patcham belonged for many generations to the Webb family, who are said to have owned it 'since the Conquest'.⁷⁰ They certainly appear to have been connected with the place in 1490.⁷¹ Moulsecombe was by 1835 an estate

of 1,000 acres, when it had passed to the Tillstones.⁷² It belonged in 1870 to E. S. Tillstone.⁷³ The estate has been sold to the Brighton Corporation for building.

The parish church
CHURCH of ALL SAINTS,

which is mentioned in Domesday Book, stands on the hill-side on the east side of the village green. It consists of a nave and chancel with western tower, a modern north aisle to the nave, and modern vestries to the north of the chancel. The nave has a south porch, which may be medieval, but the date

of this, as well as those of the other older portions of the church, are difficult to determine owing to the condition of the walling, which is of flint rubble with stone dressings, the whole of which has been covered externally with Roman cement. This has fallen off the north-west and north-east angles of the building, exposing the green-sandstone quoins. The chancel arch and the remains of the old north door of the nave suggest that this at least is of the 12th century, and the chancel, too, is possibly of that date, although all its visible features are 14th century. The tower appears to be 13th century. The additions on the north side of the church were made in 1898.

In the south wall of the nave the westernmost window is a modern two-light, replacing a single-light which existed in the last century. East of the porch is a 14th-century window with two foliated lights and an ogival quatrefoil above, apparently contemporary with the east window of the chancel, which is a three-light window with reticulated tracery. Both these windows have scroll-roll drip-mouldings, terminating with horizontal stops, those of the chancel being of corbel form. The two windows on the south side of the chancel are 14th-century single lights with trefoiled heads, all much restored. The south porch is entirely cement-covered, and its simple pointed arch appears to be post-Reformation. The tower is plain, and its broach spire modern, the top of the tower having been embattled as late as the last century. The whole of the lower part of the tower is thickly covered with ivy. There is a small lancet window lighting the tower-space and another in each of the four walls of the belfry story. The south-west angle is supported by a pair of buttresses, and the ends of the south wall of the nave are also supported by southward-projecting buttresses, all of which appear to be post-Reformation, possibly of the same date as the porch. At the north-west angle of the nave may be seen the remains of a corbel-table of uncertain antiquity, but which may belong to the end of the 12th century.

The south doorway of the nave is of the 14th century, and has a very simple pointed arch with a discontinuous



TILLSTONE. *Azure a bend cotised between two sheaves or with three bears' heads sable on the bend.*

⁵³ *Visit. of Suss.* loc. cit.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, where they are wrongly called daughters of Sir Annesley: see *V.C.H. Suss.* ix, 221, n. 2.

⁵⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 251.

⁵⁶ *Chan. Inq.* p.m. (Ser. 2), cccclxxxiv, 153.

⁵⁷ Feet of F. Div. Co. Trin. 1654; *Visit. of Suss.* loc. cit.

⁵⁸ Feet of F. Div. Co. Hil. 1656. Grace Caldicott may have been another daughter

of Sir John Wildgose: *Visit. of Suss.* loc. cit.

⁵⁹ Add. MS. 39497, fol. 36.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.* fol. 39.

⁶¹ *Ibid.* fols. 38, 39. For the connexion between the families of Farncombe and Scrase, see Comber, *op. cit.* 110-11.

⁶² *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 188-9.

⁶³ *The Private Memos. of Wm. Roe*, pref. p. ii.

⁶⁴ *Lewes Chart.* i, 13.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.* i, 31; *Anct. Chart.* (Pipe Roll Soc. x), 6, 7.

⁶⁶ *Ibid.* 11.

⁶⁷ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.) i, 327.

⁶⁸ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384

(74); xvi, g. 503 (32).

⁶⁹ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 317.

⁷⁰ Berry, *Suss. Gen.* 101; cf. Horsfield,

Sussex, i, 173.

⁷¹ Comber, *op. cit.*, 308-10.

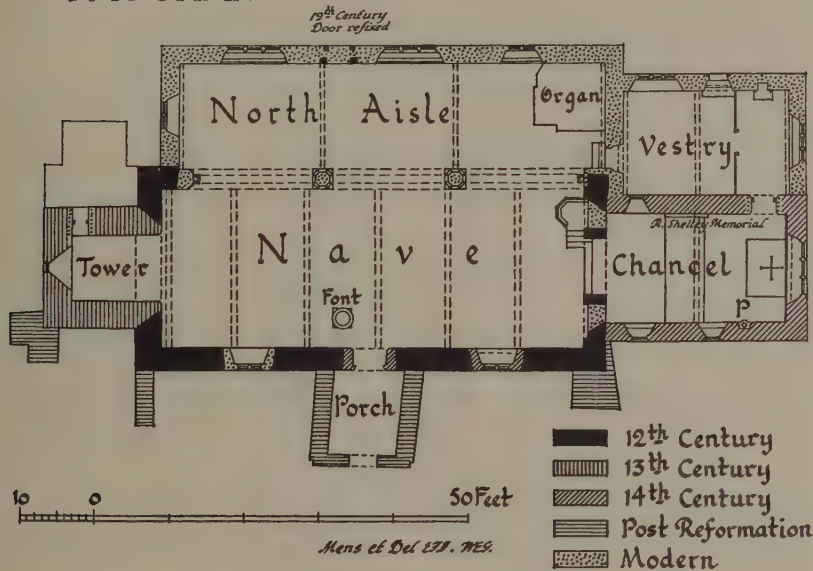
⁷² Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 173.

⁷³ Lower, *Hist. of Suss.*, ii, 77.

impost. The tower arch is pointed, with neither responds nor imposts. The original north door of the 12th-century nave has been removed to the wall of the modern north aisle, in which its jambs and arch may be seen. Its position is marked externally with modern stonework. The north arcade is of three bays, and its piers and arches are in modern brick and stonework. The chancel arch is 12th-century, with a plain un-moulded semicircular arch. The impost mouldings are restorations. On either side of it, in the east wall of the nave, are shallow round-headed recesses, to-day completely covered with plaster, but possibly original. The two westernmost windows of the chancel, the northern

There was a church in William de ADVOWSON Warrene's manor of Patcham in 1086,⁷⁸ and it was given by William, 2nd Earl Warenne, to the Priory of Lewes, with the land and tithe belonging to it.⁷⁹ In 1391 the prior and convent petitioned the Pope to be allowed to appropriate this church among others, a perpetual vicar having been instituted there. They gave as their reasons for desiring this appropriation their losses of land, meadow, and pasture through inundations, and the ransom they had been obliged to pay for their prior, who had been taken captive by French and Spaniards and long held to ransom in France, the burning of their

PARISH CHURCH of ALL SAINTS PATCHAM



of which is now covered externally by the modern vestry, are set low, and may be 'low-side windows'.⁷⁴ The chancel has a 14th-century piscina in the usual position, with a trefoiled head. The internally fluted basin projects slightly from the wall-face. On the north side of the nave is a very crudely executed wall memorial to Richard Shelley, who died in 1594.

Over the chancel arch are the remains of a painted 'Doom',⁷⁵ which was discovered in 1883 when the church was restored. The church had previously been restored in 1825-30, and in 1856. The last restoration was in 1898, when the northern additions were made. The font is modern.

There are three bells, of which one is dated 1639. The others are uninscribed, but the larger must have been recast since 1724, when it was noted as cracked.⁷⁶

The church possesses a silver communion cup with paten cover; neither has a hall mark, but the paten is dated 1568. There is another paten, of foreign origin, bearing the name of Herbert Stapley and the date 1666.⁷⁷

The registers begin in 1568.

crops and the capture of their serfs by the French.⁸⁰ Prior John Oke in 1400 granted as a pittance to the sub-prior and convent the fruits of Patcham Church and a rent of 26s. 8d. from it.⁸¹ After appropriating the rectory, the prior appears to have been remiss in providing suitable vicars and keeping up the church buildings, and in 1426 the Archbishop of Canterbury was commanded to inquire into a complaint by the parishioners that the church buildings were in ruins, that divine worship had been greatly diminished, that the cure of souls was much neglected, and that the hospitality formerly shown to the poor by the rectors had been withdrawn.⁸² The archbishop was empowered to annul the appropriation if necessary; but this was not done, and the Prior and Convent of Lewes remained impropiators and patrons of the living until the Dissolution.⁸³

King Henry VIII granted the advowson to Thomas Cromwell in 1538,⁸⁴ and after his attainder both the advowson and the rectory were granted to Anne of Cleves on 17 January 1541.⁸⁵ After her death they

⁷⁴ See *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlii, 132.

⁷⁵ Illustrated and described in *Arch. Journal*, xxxviii, 81.

⁷⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 181, 220.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.* liv, 242.

⁷⁸ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 436.

⁷⁹ *Lewes Chart.* i, 15, 21.

⁸⁰ *Cal. Pap. Lett.* iv, 396.

⁸¹ *Ibid.* v, 417.

⁸² *Ibid.* vii, 445.

⁸³ *Reg. of Bp. Praty* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* iv),

112, 128, 130; *Valor Eccl.* (*Rec. Com.*), i, 326; *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 437.

⁸⁴ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74).

⁸⁵ *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

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again reverted to the Crown. Queen Mary granted the rectory and church in 1558 to John, Bishop of Chichester, but under Queen Elizabeth they were restored to the Crown.⁸⁶ From that time the advowson remained in the Crown, until 1870, when it was sold to the Rev. James Gillman of Wandsworth. He died in 1877 and his son Alexander William Gillman transferred

the advowson to trustees.⁸⁷ It has recently been acquired by the Martyrs' Memorial Trust.

The rectory was granted in 1560 to Thomas and Edward Middleton,⁸⁸ and it afterwards passed to the Shelley family. In 1664-5 Henry Shelley and Cordelia his wife sold the rectory to Sir John Stapley.⁸⁹ From that time the rectory passed with Patcham Place.⁹⁰

⁸⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 329; xxxvi, 48.

⁸⁷ Add. MS. 39469, fol. 233-6.

⁸⁸ Pat. 2 Eliz. pt. 3.

⁸⁹ Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 16 & 17 Chas. II.

⁹⁰ Ibid. Mich. 3 Wm. & Mary; Trin.

12 Wm. III; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 340; Lewis, *Top. Dict.*

THE HUNDRED OF YOUNSMERE

CONSISTING OF THE PARISHES OF
FALMER OIVINGDEAN ROTTINGDEAN
[STANMER]

AT the time of the Domesday Survey, of the lands which are now in Younsmere Hundred,¹ Rottingdean and Ovingdean with Balmer (now in Falmer parish) were in Welesmere Hundred,² while Falmer, with Bevendean and Moulston, were in the hundred of Falmer.³ There were three divisions of the hundred of Younsmere in 1296, but the only one to be given a name was Balmer.⁴ Rottingdean and Falmer appeared in 1316,⁵ while the three divisions in 1327 and 1332 were Rottingdean; Ovingdean; Balsdean, Falmer, and Balmer.⁶ By the end of the 16th century there were two 'boroughs' in the hundred, namely, Rottingdean, comprehending Ovingdean and Balsdean, and Falmer.⁷ The single constable of the hundred was chosen annually in the following rotation, namely from Rottingdean, Falmer, Ovingdean, Rottingdean, Falmer, Balsdean, and so on.⁸ Falmer paid no common fine, *ex consuetudine*,⁹ but 13s. 4d. was due annually from Rottingdean.¹⁰ Each married man in Rottingdean, Ovingdean, and Balsdean paid 2d. each half year and every bachelor who had lived there a year and a day 'and hauinge receaued the communion' 1½d. If any such bachelor refused to pay, then his master was to discharge the same out of his wages.¹¹ The headborough of Rottingdean, in order to make up the common fine and to help to repay his services, was allowed to pasture twenty wethers that should be freely kept for him among the flocks in Rottingdean, Balsdean, and Ovingdean.¹² Similarly the alderman had the right to pasture six wethers among the flocks of the tenant of Balmer without paying shepherd's wages 'or any other secular duties therefore'.¹³

For the subsidy of 1621 the hundred was divided under Falmer and Ovingdean,¹⁴ but for the county rate of 1624, under Falmer, Ovingdean, and Rottingdean,¹⁵ which divisions persisted¹⁶ until Ovingdean and Rottingdean were both included in the borough of Brighton by the Brighton Corporation Act of 1927.

The courts of the hundred of Younsmere were held at Hunns Mere Pit in Rottingdean. This pit was described in a note-book of John Dudeney (1782–1863) as being about a quarter of a mile to the east of Woodingdean on the brow of a hill a few yards to the left of the road leading from Woodingdean to Balsdean. It had been ploughed over and was then a flat of a few rods in length

¹ Yonesmere (xiii cent.); Iwonesmere (xiii–xiv cent.); Wensmere *alias* Ewensmere, Yeonsmere (xvii cent.).

² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 437b, 438a. Brighton was in this hundred also.

³ *Ibid.* 436b, 438b, 443a. Stanmer, now a detached portion of Ringmer Hundred (rape of Pevensey), was then in Falmer Hundred: *ibid.* 388b.

⁴ *Subs.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. x), 43.

⁵ *Feud. Aids*, v, 135.

⁶ *Subs.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. x), 171–2, 285–6.

⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 145.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.* 146.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 145.

¹¹ *Ibid.* 145.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ *Ibid.* 146.

¹⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 77–8.

¹⁵ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 103.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*; *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 225.

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with a bank on its south side, but the people still called it Hounds Mere Pit and said that the hundred court was held there. It is mentioned as the meeting-place of the hundred in a survey of Falmer Manor made in 1617.¹⁷ The pit, which is just within the boundary which divided the old parishes of Rottingdean and Ovingdean, may still be traced beside the old road between Woodingdean and Balsdean.¹⁸

¹⁷ Treas. of Receipt, Misc. Bks. clvii, fol. 180.

¹⁸ *Suss. N. & Q.* iv, 155, quoting A. H. Allcroft, *Downland Pathways*.

YOUNSMERE HUNDRED

FALMER

Falemela, Falemere, Felesmere (xi cent.).

Falmer is a large parish covering 3,612 acres of Downland to the north-east of Brighton. Its area forms a long strip 4 miles long and a mile and a half wide, stretching north-eastwards from Falmer Hill, a little more than 500 ft. high, towards the main range of the Downs, and there embracing Balmer Down, of about the same height. Near the middle of the south-east run of the parish boundary is Newmarket Hill, 645 ft. high. The soil is chalk with patches of loam, and is arable on the lower slopes and sheep-pasture on the hills. The south-east portion of the parish was transferred to Brighton in 1927. The population of the parish in 1931 was 340.

An ancient track descends southwards from Blackcap Hill, entering Falmer parish down the spur of Buckland Bank, crowned by the group of barrows known as Four Lords Burgh, where three parish boundaries meet. The old way continues southwards through the hamlet of Balmer and thence passes along the col joining the main range of the Downs with the southern outlier of Newmarket Hill, between which and Falmer Hill the 'Drove Road' passes towards Ovingdean and Rottingdean. At Four Lords Burgh the old way is joined by a track passing up the spur from Ashcombe. In the angle between the two roads is a coombe, known as Buckland Hole, which is covered with the remains of Early Iron Age fields. At the very bottom of the coombe is the site of a Romano-British cemetery discovered in 1849.¹ The village stood along the Ashcombe trackway, its site being marked by an oval earthwork inclosure, perhaps the remains of the village 'circus' or meeting-place. On Balmer Huff, which forms the opposite side of Buckland Hole, was another small village near the north-south trackway.² The whole of the western part of Falmer Hill to the south of the parish is covered with ancient fields, and village sites have been discovered on both its north and south slopes. In Ashcombe Bottom, at the extreme north of the parish and in Loose Bottom, south-east of the village, may be seen the remains of valley entrenchments.³

Falmer village stands on the col noted above, and thus at the head of two valleys leading to Brighton and Lewes respectively. At its southern end is a mere or large pond, from which two roads lead northwards towards Balmer and the high Downs. Three hundred yards from the mere a cross-road joins the two, being part of an old road from Lewes towards Brighton replaced by the modern road, which now cuts the village into halves. The cottages forming the village are mostly grouped along the older cross-road and the westernmost of the two roads leading to the mere. Immediately to the north of the church is a large farm, having a fine aisled timber barn, of unusual length, and possibly dating from the 16th century.

The railway from Lewes to Brighton passes through the parish, keeping immediately south of the main road. It passes under the village by a tunnel about a quarter of a mile long, Falmer station being on the main road some 3 furlongs west of the village. Near by is an inn. A

small detached portion of Falmer lying between Stanmer and Patcham was transferred to Stanmer in 1934.

Balmer (more correctly Bormer) is a small hamlet three-quarters of a mile north-east of Falmer, on a spur of Balmer Down, and only approachable by a lane from the Falmer-Lewes road. It now consists of a farmhouse with extensive farm buildings, and a few old cottages, one of which, east of the village street and opposite the farm-house, has a west wall which is stone-built and possibly medieval. At the south end of the hamlet is a large pond, which appears to have once covered a larger area than at present. Farther northwards the ground shows traces of the steads of vanished buildings.

On the western slopes of Falmer Hill is Hodshrove Farm, which is now being developed for building purposes. The original house is ancient, being partly half-timber and partly flint with brick dressings. The oldest work is at the northern end, where at least one of the posts of a medieval single-story building remains visible. Towards the end of the 16th century, the house appears to have been reconstructed with an upper floor, the bay arrangement being modified for the purpose. The floor beams are stop-chamfered, and there are secondary beams, similarly treated, over the hall part of the house. The floor joists do not show. The house as rearranged consisted of a hall and two parlours, with an outshot aisle to the hall and upper parlour. The original heavily timbered roof may be seen at the south end of the building.⁴ The west side of the house is covered by an early-19th-century block. The whole building is now derelict, but is to be restored by the Brighton Corporation and utilized for civic purposes.

The upper end of the long coombe curving round the south-west end of Falmer Hill from Moulsecombe contains the small settlement of Bevendean, with an 18th-century farm-house of no particular interest.

There was woodland in Falmer in 1086 yielding mast for 20 swine, and when the manor was surveyed in 1617 it was said that there had been a great many trees growing upon a waste called Nowendean. Most of these had then been felled and those remaining were young trees 'fit to be preserved'.⁵ The woodland had completely disappeared by 1827,⁶ and at the present day there are only one or two small plantations.

One of the principal sources of income of the lords of Falmer manor was the rent of pasturage for sheep. At the Dissolution the Prior of Lewes was receiving a rent of £26 for pasturage of 2,600 sheep, when the demesne farm was worth £22 a year and the assized rents of tenants £38.⁷ The downs belonging to the manor are enumerated in a survey of 1608.⁸ They were Rudge (60 acres), Moustone (120 acres), Bromdowne (450 acres), Howsedowne (80 acres), Cranedowne (80 acres), New Markett (300 acres),⁹ Workemadowne (120 acres), the Vyneard (400 acres), Mowlescombe (200 acres), Westerdowne (200 acres).

Falmer was visited in 1324 by Edward II, who dated a grant there on 3 July.¹⁰

¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* iii, 56.

² See paper by G. A. Holleyman in *Antiquity*, ix, 448, giving further references.

³ *Brighton and Hove Archaeologist*, iii, 51.

⁴ This part of the building seems to

have become uninhabited when the new part of the house was built. Its blocked windows may be seen on the east side.

⁵ *Treas. of Receipt, Misc. Bks. clvii*, fol. 179.

⁶ Horsfield, *Lewes*, ii, 92.

⁷ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), i, 329.

⁸ *Aug. Off. Misc. Bks. xlvii*, fol. 55.

⁹ For mention of an earthwork of uncertain date, near Newmarket Plantation, see *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 478.

¹⁰ *Cal. Fine R.* 1319-27, p. 289.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

A windmill at Falmer was said in 1617 to have been built by the ancestors of Richard Dumbrell who was then tenant.¹¹ The manorial pound at Falmer was at one time used as a hiding-place for smuggled goods. A cavern was dug underneath it large enough to hold 100 tubs of spirits and it was covered with planks and strewn over with mould and remained undiscovered for years.¹²

Before the Conquest the abbey of Wilton *MANORS* held the manor of *FALMER*. It was then assessed for 21 hides.¹³ After the Conquest the greater part of it appears to have been given to Gundrada wife of William de Warenne, and William, evidently on her behalf, gave the vill of Falmer, where there were 3 plough-lands, to the abbey of Cluny for the foundation of the priory of St. Pancras at Lewes.¹⁴ In 1806 the priory of Lewes held of William de Warenne 18 hides at Falmer. The remainder of the 21 hides were in the rape of the Count of Mortain, 1½ hides being probably represented by those in 'Felesmere' in the hundred of East Grinstead,¹⁵ and the remainder by part of the abbey of Wilton's manor of West Firlie.¹⁶ The priory acquired 2 more hides at Falmer about 1150 by grant of William de Droseto. This land had been held by William de St. Pancras uncle of the donor, whose gift was confirmed by his brothers Geoffrey and Robert; William undertook to discharge all service due for the land from his own demesne,¹⁷ and William de Warenne confirmed the grant and remitted all service due to him.¹⁸

A rent from this manor was assigned by Prior John Oke in 1400 for the infirmary of the monks and the infirmary of the hospital of St. Nicholas at Lewes.¹⁹ At the Dissolution the profits of the manor, valued at £22 yearly, were in the hands of the prior for the use of his house.²⁰ It was surrendered by Robert the last Prior of Lewes to King Henry VIII in 1537,²¹ and was granted in February 1538 to Thomas Cromwell,²² and, after his forfeiture, to Anne of Cleves,²³ on whose death in 1557 it reverted to the Crown. The pasturage and sheep courses in Falmer were leased to Nicholas Jenney in 1539 for 21 years;²⁴ and the demesne lands were leased in 1574 for 21 years to Walter Dobell.²⁵ This was probably a renewal of a previous lease, as his grandfather Walter Dobell had held the farm of Falmer and a great stock of cattle, which he bequeathed by his will in 1558 to this Walter, who was then a minor.²⁶ The lease was renewed in 1580 and 1609.²⁷

Meanwhile, the lease of the pasture in Newmarket, the Vyneyard, and Bormer, which had been granted to Jenney and subsequently, in 1580, to Sir Thomas Sack-

ville, Lord Buckhurst, came into the hands of Richard, Earl of Dorset, and was assigned by him in 1615²⁸ to Walter Dobell, junior, who was probably the son of the lessee of the site of the manor. The latter died 29 January 1625. His son Walter was holding land at Falmer in 1637,²⁹ but after that time the tenancy of this family at Falmer seems to have ceased.

King Charles I³⁰ granted the manor in 1628-9 to Edward Ditchfield and others,³¹ who sold it in 1630 to William, Lord Craven, of Hampstead Marshall, co. Berks.,³² who, owing to his Royalist sympathies, was deprived of a great part of his lands during the Civil War. The manor of Falmer was bought in 1646 by Edward Tooke from the Treason Trustees.³³ On the restoration of Charles II Lord Craven's estates were restored and he was on 16 March 1664-5 created Earl Craven. He died unmarried in 1697 and was succeeded by a cousin William Craven.³⁴ Conveyances were made in 1708 by William, Lord Craven, to bar the entail.³⁵ William, who married Elizabeth sister of Sir Fulwar Skipwith, died in 1711. The estate passed successively to his sons William and Fulwar. Fulwar died unmarried in 1764 and the title and estates passed to a cousin William Craven.³⁶ He also died without issue on 17 March 1769, and Falmer was sold by his nephew and successor William Craven to John, afterwards Sir John, Shelley who held his first court in 1771.³⁷ Sir John Shelley sold the manor in 1776 to Thomas, Lord Pelham of Stanmer,³⁸ who in 1785 settled it on himself for life with remainder in tale male to his sons successively.³⁹ Thomas was created Earl of Chichester in 1801,⁴⁰ and the manor of Falmer has since descended with the title.

A fee farm rent of £129 16s. 6½d., reserved to the Crown when the manor was granted in 1628-9 to Edward Ditchfield and others, was conveyed by the king in 1670 to Sir John Cloberry of Winchester,⁴¹ and after his death was settled by his heirs in July 1689 upon William Bromley of Baggington husband of Katherine, a daughter of Sir John Cloberry, for life, with remainder to his son Cloberry Bromley.⁴² In 1724 this fee farm rent was settled by the Hon. William Bromley of Baggington upon his son William on his marriage with Lucy daughter and heir of Clement Throckmorton, late of Haseley, co. Warwick.⁴³ The younger William was dead by 1748 when his son William



CRAVEN. *Argent a fesse between six crosslets fitchy gules.*

¹¹ Treas. of Receipt, Misc. Bks. clvii, fol. 180.

¹² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 195.

¹³ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 436b. It had probably been given by Queen Edith, daughter of Godwin and wife of Edward the Confessor, as she was closely connected with the abbey: *Lives of Edw. the Confessor* (Rolls Ser.), 403, 418.

¹⁴ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 25, 10; (ibid. xl), xix; *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 364, note 3.

¹⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 418.

¹⁶ Ibid. 436b, and note 12.

¹⁷ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xl), 43.

¹⁸ Ibid. xxxviii, 37. The manor was included in the general confirmations of the priory lands: ibid. 69-72.

¹⁹ *Cal. Pap. Lett.* v, 417.

²⁰ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), i, 329.

²¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 436-7.

²² *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii, (1), g. 384 (74).

²³ Ibid. xvi, g. 503 (32).

²⁴ Ibid. xvi, g. 305 (70).

²⁵ Pat. 16 Eliz. pt. x.

²⁶ Chan. Proc. (Ser. 2), bde. 49, no. 85.

²⁷ Cf. Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 96-7.

²⁸ *Suss. Deeds* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxix), 119; Pat. 28 Eliz. pt. xiii; S.P. Dom. Jas. I, xlv, 28; Pat. 7 Jas. I, pt. xi.

²⁹ *Suss. Deeds* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxix), 120.

³⁰ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 98.

³¹ As Prince of Wales he had had a grant of the manor in 1617: Pat. 14 Jas. I, pt. x.

³² Pat. 4 Chas. I, pt. xxxv, A.

³³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvii, 48; G.E.C.

Complete Peerage (2nd ed.), iii, 500.

³⁴ *Cal. of Com. for Comp.* 1626.

³⁵ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iii, 503.

³⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvii, 67; *Recov. R. Trin.* 7 Anne, ro. 165.

³⁷ G.E.C. loc. cit.

³⁸ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 125 d. In 1769 Lord Craven conveyed it to Joseph Hill: *Recov. R. Trin.* 9 Geo. III, ro. 201.

³⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvii, 87.

⁴⁰ Ibid. 88; *Recov. R. Trin.* 25 Geo. III, ro. 216.

⁴¹ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iii, 195.

⁴² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvii, p. 53, nos. 65, 67.

⁴³ Ibid. p. 56, nos. 90, 91.

⁴⁴ Ibid. p. 67, no. 191.

Throckmorton Bromley was in possession of the rent,⁴⁴ which he sold in 1754 to Fulwar, Lord Craven.⁴⁵ Under Lord Craven's will dated 1 December 1759 the rent passed to William Lloyd and Thomas Craven of Benham Place, co. Berks., and they sold it in 1770 to William, Lord Craven,⁴⁶ lord of the manor.

The manor of Falmer extends into the parishes of Chailey, Lindfield, Patcham, Rottingdean, Chilmington, and Kingston,⁴⁷ and the manor of West Blatchington was held freely of the manor of Falmer.⁴⁸ All the free tenants in Falmer were said in 1608 to hold their tenements of the manor of Bolney,⁴⁹ and in a survey made in 1617⁵⁰ it was stated that there were no freeholders certainly known to belong to the manor. It was not known how the out-tenants at Chailey, Lindfield, and elsewhere, nineteen in number, held their land, but it was believed to be copyhold. A form of copyhold tenements peculiar to this manor were the Bovaries, thirteen in number,⁵¹ each of which rightly contained 5 acres at a certain rent of 8s. 9d., but some of them in 1617 contained 6 or 7 acres. The owners of these tenements claimed that the fine was certain, at 6d.,⁵² and they did certain harvest work, each one gathering and cocking 6 acres of barley yearly, and for this they each claimed to have two cows grazing on the demesne land from 11 May to Martinmas, 'better worth than their work' as the surveyor remarked. The custom of Borough English held in this manor.⁵³

Another peculiarity of this manor was that there were still in 1617 three bondmen of blood who had never been manumitted, namely Thomas Gering who lived at Amberley, William Gering of Piddinghoe, and John Gering of Rottingdean, all poor men. As to this the surveyor remarks, 'but me thincks this kind of advantage is now out of season, yet were they men of abilitie they might be upon some consideration enfranchized'.⁵⁴ In 1594 there had been five neifs, three named Gering.⁵⁵

BALMER [Borgemere, Burgemela (xi cent.); Bouremere (xiii cent.); Borwemere (xiv cent.); Boroughmere (xvi cent.); Bormer (xvii cent.)] was held before the Conquest by villeins belonging to Falmer, and in 1086 by Goze of William de Warenne, as 4 hides. Another hide in Balmer had also been held before the Conquest by a villein of Falmer, and was in 1086 held by Eustace.⁵⁶ This hide was given by William de Warenne the second to the priory of Lewes;⁵⁷ he also confirmed to the priory 2 hides at Borgemere which Goze his foster-father held.⁵⁸ This estate became part of the prior's manor of Falmer.

The manor of **BEVINGDEAN** or **BEVENDEAN** [Bevedene (xi cent.); Beveden (xiii cent.); Bevynden (xiv, xv cents.)] was held in the time of the Confessor by

Azor, and was assessed then and in 1086 for 4 hides. Walter held the manor in 1086 of William de Warenne. There was land for 3 ploughs, and there were 2 haws in Lewes yielding 18 pence.⁵⁹ Villeins of Keymer held this land.

There was 1 virgate in addition which paid no geld because it was outside the rape. This was perhaps Standean, assessed at 1½ virgates, held in 1086 by the Count of Mortain and accounted for under Tarring Neville in Pevensey rape.⁶⁰

The manor was held as 1 knight's fee of the honor of Lewes.⁶¹ Most of the estates held by Walter in 1086 passed to the family of Fokinton of Folkington.⁶² Hugh de Fokinton in about 1230 gave to the monks of Lewes a plot of land in Bevedean lying beside his well, with the right to draw water from the well.⁶³ Jordan de Blosseville also had some right in this well, and he made a similar grant to the monks.⁶⁴ Reynold, a younger son of Hugh de Fokinton,⁶⁵ had some interest in Bevedean, for in 1230 his widow Maud granted to Ernald the clerk all the land which she held as dower there.⁶⁶ Hugh de Fokinton, eldest son of Hugh and Egeline, was holding the manor as 1 knight's fee in 1242.⁶⁷ By October 1249 Hugh had given the reversion of this knight's fee in Bevedean to his daughter Olimpia and her husband John la Warr,⁶⁸ and he agreed to do suit at their court of Folkington and castleward at Pevensey for it.⁶⁹ Hugh died before 1252⁷⁰ and John de la Warr and Olimpia succeeded to Bevedean. Their son Roger de la Warr succeeded about 1275,⁷¹ and in 1312 he granted all his land in Bevedean to Andrew de Medstede.⁷² The manor passed to Sir Philip Medstede and was conveyed in 1411 by his son Philip to trustees.⁷³ John Kent, kinsman and heir of Philip, sold the manor, now described as 'Bevyngden Mested', in 1416 to John Nelond⁷⁴ of East Grinstead, who settled the manor on himself and his wife Margaret in 1432,⁷⁵ but next year sold it to John Gaynesford.⁷⁶



MEDSTEDE. Quarterly or and gules four scallops counterchanged.

Nothing further is known of the manor until March 1565, when John Culpeper of Wakehurst (q.v.)⁷⁷ died seised of lands called Bevingdean in Falmer, leaving a son and heir Thomas⁷⁸ who in October following married Anne Bolney of Bolney, widow, and settled this land upon her. She survived her husband, who died 1 April 1571.⁷⁹ Edward son and heir of Thomas was then nine years of age.⁸⁰ He died in 1630 seised of the manor and farm of Bevedean, leaving a son Sir

⁴⁴ Ibid. pp. 79, 81, nos. 222, 231; Rev. cov. R. Trin. 21 and 22 Geo. II, ro. 217.

⁴⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvii, p. 81, nos. 232, 233, 234.

⁴⁶ Ibid. pp. 83, 85, nos. 249, 265, 266.

⁴⁷ The part in Kingston was a meadow called Goselyngs Wysch: Min. Accts. Hen. VIII, 3504.

⁴⁸ Aug. Off. Misc. Bks. 414, fol. 54.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ Treas. of Receipt, Misc. Bks. 157, fol. 178.

⁵¹ In 1534 there were 18 bovaries: Min. Accts. Hen. VIII, 3504.

⁵² The cottage tenements also paid a certain fine of 6d., but the fines of other copyholders were arbitrable: Aug. Off. Misc. Bks. 414, fol. 55.

⁵³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 182.

⁵⁴ Treas. of Receipt, Misc. Bks. 157,

fol. 180.

⁵⁵ Harl. MS. 6721, fol. 132.

⁵⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 438.

⁵⁷ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii),

10, 25.

⁵⁸ Ibid. 11.

⁵⁹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 438.

⁶⁰ Ibid. i, 419.

⁶¹ *Bk. of Fees*, 690; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 507.

⁶² Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 353. Cf. *Pipe R.* 1 John (Pipe R. Soc.), n.s. x, 128; *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 111; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 140, note a.

⁶³ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xl), 45.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ Ibid. xxxviii, 111.

⁶⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 245.

⁶⁷ *Bk. of Fees*, 690. Cf. G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁶⁸ G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁶⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 507.

⁷⁰ G.E.C. loc. cit.

⁷¹ Farrer, op. cit. iii, 353.

⁷² Harl. MS. 392, fol. 24. Andrew was sheriff of Sussex in 1324: P.R.O. *List of Sheriffs*, 135. Cf. also *Cal. Fine R.* 1327-37, p. 480; 1337-47, p. 284; *Cal. Pat.* 1340-3, p. 154.

⁷³ Harl. MS. 392, fol. 25.

⁷⁴ Ibid. fol. 25 d.

⁷⁵ Ibid. fols. 26, 27.

⁷⁶ Add. MS. 39488, fol. 247.

⁷⁷ In Ardingley parish, Buttinghill Hund. John Gaynesford's daughter Agnes married Sir John Culpeper before 1460: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlvii, 58.

⁷⁸ *Ing.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 313; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlviii, 81.

⁷⁹ *Ing.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 314.

⁸⁰ Ibid.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

William as his heir.⁸¹ Edward's land was described as half the manor of Bevedean.⁸²

Another estate in *BEVENDEAN* was held with land in Barcombe of the barony of Lewes and in 1439 formed 1 knight's fee.⁸³ The overlordship descended with that of Barcombe (q.v.) to the Dukes of Norfolk after 1439 but its later history is uncertain, although it was still owing suit at Lewes in the early 17th century.⁸⁴

Bevedean was sold by Master William de Pierpoint in about 1242 to John de Gatesden.⁸⁵ After John's death in 1262⁸⁶ his widow Hawise had the manor of Bevedean as part of her dower until in 1264 it was seized by the overlord, Earl Warenne, on the pretext that she had joined the rebels against the king.⁸⁷ The land was restored to Hawise and descended with the manor of Camoys Court in Barcombe (q.v.), being divided in 1426 between the two sisters of Hugh de Camoys, Margaret wife of Ralph Radmylde and Eleanor wife of Roger Lewknor. William grandson of Ralph Radmylde appears to have been holding his portion in 1493-4.⁸⁸ He died in 1499, without issue.⁸⁹ Sometime before 1503 this land passed to John Covert of Slaugham and Hangleton who died seised of a manor of Bevedean in that year.⁹⁰ It descended in the family of Covert with Benfield in Hangleton (q.v.)⁹¹ and Twineham-Benfield (q.v.)⁹² and in 1639, as 'the farm called Bevingdeane', was settled by Thomas Covert on his wife Diana, daughter of George, 1st Lord Goring.⁹³ In 1664 Diana Baynham, their daughter, was holding it.⁹⁴ This estate, apparently, by the early part of the 17th century included also the Lewknor portion and was described as half the manor of Bevedean, the other half being the property of Edward Culpeper.⁹⁵

The part of the manor held by Roger Lewknor and Eleanor was conveyed in 1538 by their grandson Roger Lewknor and Elizabeth [*sic*] his wife to Sir John Harcourt and Giles Foster, probably for a settlement.⁹⁶ In 1559 William Morgan and Katherine his wife, a daughter of Roger Lewknor, conveyed the estate which was part of Katherine's inheritance to Thomas Walsingham after the expiry of the life interest which Anthony Stapley, husband of Mabel Lewknor, held.⁹⁷ By the beginning of the 17th century this part of the manor had passed into the possession of Sir Walter Covert, owner of the Radmylde moiety.⁹⁸

In 1733 William Jones, rector of Athlone in Ireland, and Lydia Hackett spinster of the same, sold their undivided moiety of the farm of Bevedean, stated to contain 300 acres, to Charles Geare.⁹⁹

MOULSTON [Mulestana (viii cent.); Molstan, Mulestan (xi cent.); Moleston (xiii cent.); Moustone (xvii cent.)] formed part of the boundary of land in

Stanmer and Lindfield granted about 765 by Alduulf King of the South Saxons to Earl Hunlabe to build a monastery, afterwards St. Michael's, South Malling.¹ Before the Conquest Moulston was held by Azor of King Edward, as of the manor of Ovingdean. In 1086 Gozelin held it of William de Warenne as 1 hide.² William de Warenne the second in about 1095 granted to the monks of Lewes the land called 'Mulestan'.³ He also confirmed to them a grant of a hide of land at Falmer made by Fredesend daughter of Hugh son of Rainer.⁴ A grant by William de Warenne about 1090 of 'a hide of the land of Plumptown which is at Falmer' may relate to this estate,⁵ for part of Moulston seems to have belonged to the Bardolfs, lords of Plumptown, since William Bardolf obtained a grant of free warren at Moulston in 1254.⁶ The estate at Moulston belonging to the priory of Lewes became part of the manor of Falmer and was in 1608 a down called Moustone containing 120 acres.⁷ In 1630 Thomas Vinall died seised of a messuage called Lower Moustestone in Falmer, late in the tenure of John Vinall. His heir was a young son Thomas, aged 7 years.⁸

William de Warenne the second confirmed to the monks of Lewes 2 hides at *PATCHWAY*⁹ [Pacheleswia (xi cent.); Pacheleswy (xiii cent.); Patchweye (xvii cent.); Pattisweye (xviii cent.)] which Hugh son of Hugh son of Golde gave to them.¹⁰ The title of this land was confirmed to the monks by Ralph, Bishop of Chichester (1091-1125).¹¹ In 1279 Maud de Kymere, widow, daughter and heir of William Peytevin, released to the prior and convent all her right in the tenement called Paccheleswye which her ancestors used to hold of the prior.¹² Subsequently this land became part of the demesne of Falmer Manor, and was annexed to a farm called Hotshrove. In 1557¹³ Pattisweye is described as a down, the soil of which was somewhat better than that of the sheep course, Hotshrove Down. The farm-house was then old and ruinous, and was held by John Hardman under a lease for 6 years granted by Thomas Cromwell. It followed the descent of the manor of Falmer and is mentioned in a settlement of 1787.¹⁴

The church of *ST. LAURENCE* stands *CHURCH* at the south-east end of the village, just east of the mere. It consists of a nave and chancel with a vestry to the north of the latter, a west tower, and has a gallery and organ loft at the west end of the nave.

It originally consisted of a 12th- or 13th-century nave, with a south aisle and west bell-cote and a chancel. The latter, however, was said in 1605 to have fallen down fifty years before, the east end of the nave being

⁸¹ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 317.

⁸² *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 194.

⁸³ *Ibid.* 188, 192; *Chan. Inq.* p.m. 18 Hen. VI, no. 28.

⁸⁴ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 194.

⁸⁵ *Cal. Fine R.* i, 265; *Cal. Inq.* p.m. i, 706.

⁸⁶ *Excerpt. Fin.* ii, 370, 377, 384.

⁸⁷ *Cal. Misc. Inq.* i, 918; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 219.

⁸⁸ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 194.

⁸⁹ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii, 510.

⁹⁰ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 291; *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 180.

⁹¹ In half-hundred of Fishersgate.

⁹² In Buttinghill Hundred.

⁹³ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 39; *Comber*, op. cit. 185.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

⁹⁵ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 194.

⁹⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 445; *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 150-1; but cf. *Visit. of Suss.* (Harl. Soc.), 26.

⁹⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 49.

⁹⁸ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 194.

⁹⁹ Add. MS. 39488, fol. 248.

¹ *Birch, Cart. Sax.* i, no. 197.

² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 443.

³ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 21.

⁴ *Ibid.* 11, 13.

⁵ *Ibid.* 35.

⁶ *Cal. Pat.* 1247-58, p. 313. Farrer suggests that it passed to the Bardolfs with Portslade through Rainald de Warenne: *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 324.

⁷ *Aug. Off. Misc. Bks.* 414, fol. 55.

⁸ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 1044.

⁹ Patchway is probably to be identified with Pettesleswye, mentioned in the boundaries of land in Stanmer and Lindfield, granted about 765 by Aduulf king of the South Saxons to Earl Hunlabe: *Birch, Cart. Sax.* i, no. 197.

¹⁰ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), i, 13, 40.

¹¹ *Suss. N. & Q.* i, 49.

¹² *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xl), ii, 44. Cf. *Fines* (ibid. vii), 670.

¹³ *Rentals and Surveys* (P.R.O.), 15, no. 56.

¹⁴ *Aug. Off. Misc. Bks.* 414, fol. 55; *Treas. of Receipt, Misc. Bks.* 157, fol. 177; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvii, 90. Cf. also *Place-Names, Suss.* ii, 309-10.

then walled up.¹⁵ In 1815 the whole church was destroyed and entirely rebuilt in rubble, flint-faced, with brick dressings. The north wall of the nave shows the work of this period, and is quite simple and unaffected. The remainder of the church, inside and out, was completely altered about fifty years later, the brick dressings being covered with Roman cement, and the windows being embellished with pseudo-Norman ornament effected in the same material. The tower and eaves were similarly treated, the latter having an elaborate corbel-table. There is also a pseudo-Norman chancel arch. No old memorials remain.

There is one uninscribed bell.¹⁶

The plate consists of a silver communion cup of 1666, with a rude conical stem; a paten of 1718, presented in 1749; a silver flagon of 1876, given by Lord Pelham in 1881; and a pewter alms-dish, dated 1737.¹⁷

The registers date from 1640.

The chapel of Balmer, mentioned in Domesday Book as an *ecclesiola* and held by Lewes Priory in 1535,¹⁸ has now disappeared. The field stretching down the hillside west of the large pond is, however, known as Church Laine, and it would therefore seem probable that the church stood, as at Falmer and Stanmer, immediately adjacent to the mere.

There was a church in the manor of *ADWOWSON* Falmer in 1086.¹⁹ It belonged to the priory of St. Pancras until the Dissolution,²⁰ and the farm of the rectory was at that time valued at £18 9s. 3d.,²¹ a pension of £7 6s. 8d. being paid to the vicar.²² The rectory and advowson were granted with the manor in succession to Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex,²³ and Anne of Cleves,²⁴ and in November 1558 Queen Mary granted the advowson to John, Bishop of Chichester,²⁵ and his successors for ever. Queen Elizabeth revoked this grant.²⁶ In 1560 the queen leased the rectory for 21 years to Thomas Cockes.²⁷ Thomas obtained another lease for 21 years ten years later,²⁸ and in 1596 the rectory was granted by Jerome Beale and Anne his wife and Jerome their son to the queen,²⁹ who leased it in that year to George Goring and Edward and Henry his sons for their lives.³⁰ In March 1601 Walter Dobell of Falmer purchased the rights of the Gorings in the rectory.³¹

Meanwhile the advowson appears to have remained vested in the Crown³² until November 1607 when, with the rectory, it was granted in fee farm for ever to John Suckling and William Denman at the request of Sir Roger Aston, one of the gentlemen of the bed-chamber.³³ The rectory is said to have been granted previously by Act of Parliament to Cardinal Pole.³⁴ Before 1617 the rectory and advowson had passed to Richard, Earl of Dorset,³⁵ who died seised of the rectory in 1624³⁶ leaving as his heirs his daughters the Ladies Margaret and Isabel Sackville, both young children. In 1630 both rectory and advowson were sold by Goddard Gravenor and Anne his wife to Walter Dobell.³⁷ Dobell died in 1640,³⁸ and there is no further record concerning the rectory and advowson until 1721 when, as a former possession of Daniel Sheldon, of Howe Court, it belonged to his daughters Judith and Mary Sheldon.³⁹ They conveyed the rectory in 1725 to Robert Lamb, vicar of Falmer, who died in 1727.⁴⁰ Under Judith's will the advowson passed in 1725 to Mary,⁴¹ who mortgaged it in 1737 to Samuel Levinge.⁴² Ten years later Samuel bequeathed it to his cousin Elizabeth Levinge, who married Delme Vanheythompson and sold the rectory and advowson in 1751 to Thomas Pelham,⁴³ who settled them in 1785 upon himself and his sons successively in tail male.⁴⁴ The advowson and rectory have since descended with the manor. From 1724 to 1727, and again from 1771 onwards, the living of Falmer was held by the same incumbent as that of the neighbouring church of Stanmer.⁴⁵ On 15 June 1809 there was an act providing for the union of the rectory of Stanmer and the vicarage of Falmer,⁴⁶ but this was conditional and not absolute and the union was finally decreed in 1835, when it was decided that the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Earl of Chichester should present alternately.⁴⁷ The first presentation to the united benefices was made by the archbishop in January 1858, and the second, by the Earl of Chichester, in January 1891. The vicarage of Hellingly was by Order in Council, dated 20 November 1894, exchanged for the alternate right of presentation by the Archbishop of Canterbury so that the whole advowson of the united benefice of Stanmer *cum* Falmer now belongs to the Earl of Chichester.⁴⁸

OVINGDEAN

Hovingedene (xi cent.); Ovingdene, Huvingeden, Vuingedene (xii cent.); Ovyndenne (xiv cent.).

The parish forms a long wedge-shaped area, its base, a mile and a half wide, lying along the eastern boundary of Brighton, and its apex, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles due east, on the summit of High Hill, dividing Rottingdean from Bauldean. Part of the northern boundary of the parish lies along a ridge, 500 ft. high, a spur of Newmarket Hill, and from this ridge, descending south-eastwards, run

two spurs, Red Hill to the west and Mount Pleasant to the east. Between these hills, which are about 350 ft. high, lies Wick Bottom, the head of the coombe containing the village of Ovingdean. The parish covers 1,630 acres and was, until recently, mostly sheep-pasture, but the building development from Brighton and the newly founded colonies at Woodingdean and on the northern ridge, are threatening to submerge the parish in housing estates.

¹⁵ Add. MS. 39446, fol. 44.

¹⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 208.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* liv, 226-7.

¹⁸ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 326.

¹⁹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 436b.

²⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 193; *Fines*

(*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 426-7; *Reg. of Bishop*

Praty (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* iv), 110, 116, 130.

²¹ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 326.

²² *Ibid.* 331.

²³ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384

(74).

²⁴ *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

²⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 329.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ Pat. 2 Eliz. pt. ii.

²⁸ Pat. 12 Eliz. pt. iii.

²⁹ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix), 161.

³⁰ Pat. 38 Eliz. pt. v.

³¹ *Suss. Deeds* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxix),

696.

³² Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvi, 48.

³³ Pat. 5 Jas. I, pt. xx; *Cal. S.P. Dom.*

1603-10, p. 377.

³⁴ *Ibid.*

³⁵ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 412.

³⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), xlv, 153.

³⁷ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix), 161.

³⁸ *Comber, Suss. Gen.* (Lewes), 96-8.

³⁹ *Cal. of Stubbs Coll.* (Lewes), no. 249.

⁴⁰ Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 11 Geo. I; *Suss.*

Arch. Coll. xxvi, 85.

⁴¹ *Cal. of Stubbs Coll.* (Lewes), no. 252.

⁴² *Ibid.* no. 258.

⁴³ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix), 233.

⁴⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxvii, 88.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* xxvi, 88.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* 85, and note.

⁴⁷ Act of 5 & 6 Will. IV, cap. 21; ex inf.

Messrs. Blaker, Son & Young, Lewes.

⁴⁸ Ex inf. Messrs. Blaker, Son & Young.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

On the summit of Castle Hill, to the west of the village, are the remains of Romano-British fields, and other finds of the period have been made at Roedean,¹ south of this, where there is a large girls' public school. On the summit of Mount Pleasant is a barrow of unknown date.

The small village lies at the mouth of the coombe, the few cottages clustered round the village green, beside which is the church, manor house, and a large farm. A few cottages straggle up the hill along the road to Woodingdean. On the east side of this road is a large house called Ovingdean Hall. The rectory stands immediately south of the church; it replaces 'a mean thatched parsonage house' mentioned by Burrell about 1780.²

The manor-house, known as Ovingdean Grange, is on the north-east side of the village green. The building has been added to several times, and the front to the road is apparently an early-19th-century façade, screening the older house behind. The only portion of this which is of any interest, however, is at the northern corner, where may be seen the remains of late-16th-century work. The walls have been covered with stucco, but a portion of a flint-faced building with stone dressings and a strong plinth may be clearly seen. On the north-west side is a porch two stories high, with the door placed eccentrically, and a small single-light window beside it. This porch is attached to the side of a narrow, two-storied building lying south-west and north-east, the latter end of which can be clearly seen. This contains the remains of a window lighting the basement and, very close to the north angle, a blocked doorway on the upper floor. The irregular appearance of the quoins suggests that this angle may have once had a diagonal buttress, indicating the possibility that the walling of the early building may be late medieval.

In the time of King Edward the Con-
MANORS fessor Alnod held *OVINGDEAN* of King Edward for 5 hides, and in the same vill Edith held 3 hides of the king in parage.³ Two of Alnod's 5 hides were part of his manor of Alciston in Penvensey rape and attached to them were 7 burgesses. In 1086 these 2 hides formed part of Alciston Manor held by Battle Abbey.⁴ The rest, with Edith's 3 hides, became one manor, held in 1086 by Godfrey of William de Warenne as 6 hides. Ten haws at Lewes belonged to this manor and there was a chapel. With these hides Godfrey also held 2 hides which had never paid geld.⁵ Another estate at Ovingdean assessed for 2 hides was held before the Conquest by Bricmaer of Azor, and in 1086 by the same man of William de Warenne.⁶

Godfrey, who held the greater part of Ovingdean in 1086, was probably Godfrey de Pierpoint who gave 1 hide at Ovingdean to Lewes Priory, his grant being confirmed about 1090 by his overlord William de

Warenne.⁷ The monks acquired more land there of Jordan de Blossville,⁸ and Hamelin, Earl Warenne, about 1175 gave them 2½ hides.⁹ John de Freville gave the monks 4½ acres and confirmed the gift made by his father Richard of half the tithes of his demesne in Ovingdean.¹⁰ By 1252 the monks were in possession of a considerable portion of the tithes of Ovingdean, their right to which the rector of Ovingdean acknowledged.¹¹

The priors of Lewes retained this estate until the Dissolution. At that time the land was leased to Joan Everard widow, owner of the other manor of Ovingdean, at a rent of £4 13s. 4d.¹² It was released to the Crown in 1537 as a manor of *OVINGDEAN*¹³ and was granted in 1538 to Thomas Cromwell,¹⁴ afterwards Earl of Essex. After his attainder it passed, as the 'farm called Ovynden', to Anne of Cleves in 1541,¹⁵ and subsequently the manor was granted in 1544 to Richard and John Sackville.¹⁶

In February 1551 the king acquired a manor of Ovingdean from Thomas Horseman and Elizabeth his wife, by exchange for manors in Lincoln and Norfolk.¹⁷ It was probably this manor which was sold by Henry Garway, alderman of the city of London, in 1638 to Simon Stone of the Middle Temple and Edward Raynes of Lewes.¹⁸ Simon had married Elizabeth Springett, aunt of Sir William Springett,¹⁹ by whom the manor was settled upon his brother Herbert of St. Catherine Hall, Cambridge, and Anthony Springett of the Middle Temple.²⁰ It belonged in 1654 to Herbert Springett who then leased it for three months to George Thompson.²¹ In 1685 Herbert Springett of Lewes leased the manor house of Ovingdean in 1685 to John Wildbore²² for seven years, and conveyed the manor to Anthony Springett of Plumpton.²³ But in January 1691, shortly after the death of Herbert Springett, his eldest son Herbert conveyed the manor to John Spence of South Malling,²⁴ who sold it in 1694 to Richard Beard.²⁵ Richard died before 1714 and his only child Elizabeth married Henry Streatfield of Chiddingstone, in Kent, at about that time.²⁶ This estate was subsequently purchased of the Streatfields by Mr. Payne or Paine of Patcham (q.v.), who was the owner in 1780,²⁷ but apparently returned to the Beards, as it belonged in 1827 to Mr. Beard of Rottingdean,²⁸ and in 1870 to the representatives of Charles Beard.²⁹

Godfrey de Pierpoint's land at Ovingdean appears to have passed to the Warennes of Wormegay, with whose descendants, the Bardolfs, a mesne lordship descended until 1439.³⁰ In 1631 Ovingdean manor was said to be held as 2 knights' fees of the manor of Portslade.³¹

In about 1170 William de Warenne (son of Rainald) and Beatrice his wife gave to Guy le Strange and Mary Ovingdean, to hold of them by the service due from so much of the fee of Hugh de Pierpoint.^{31a} Ovingdean is mentioned in the Pipe Roll of 1196 as

¹ See paper by G. A. Holleyman in *Antiquity*, ix, map opposite p. 448.

² Add. MS. 5684, fol. 90.

³ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 437b.

⁴ *Ibid.* 437b, 394, n. 2.

⁵ *Ibid.* 437b. ⁶ *Ibid.* 437-8.

⁷ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), i, 40.

⁸ *Ibid.* i, 38. ⁹ *Ibid.* i, 44, 66.

¹⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 125; *Cat. Ant.* D. iv, A. 8027.

¹¹ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), ii, 57.

¹² *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), i, 330. This was probably the estate mentioned by William Everard in his will (1524) as 'my farm lands in Ovingden': P.C.C. 30 Bod-feld.

¹³ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 426.

¹⁴ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74).

¹⁵ *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

¹⁶ *Ibid.* xix (1), g. 1035 (137); cf. *Min. Accts.* Hen. VIII, bdle. 3498.

¹⁷ *Cal. Pat. Edw. VI*, iv, 55.

¹⁸ *Cal. Misc. Coll. C. Suss. Arch. Trust*, Lewes, C. 65. The grant included sheep down for 350 sheep on the east down of Ovingdean and pasture for 8 oxen and 3½ kine.

¹⁹ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 279.

²⁰ *Cal. Misc. Coll. Lewes*, C. 69.

²¹ *Ibid.* C. 71.

²² *Ibid.* C. 122.

²³ *Ibid.* C. 72; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 334; Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 282.

²⁴ *Ibid.* 277-8; *Cal. Misc. Coll. Lewes*, C. 73.

²⁵ *Ibid.* C. 76.

²⁶ *Ibid.* C. 78. ²⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 307, citing Add. MS. 5684, fol. 90. At this time one-third of the estate lay in Rottingdean.

²⁸ Horsfield, *History of Lewes*, ii, 179.

²⁹ Lower, *History of Sussex*, ii, 72.

³⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 18 Hen. VI, no. 28; *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 187, 189, 190, 192.

³¹ *Ibid.* 205.

^{31a} Dodsworth MS. (Bodl.), xc, fol. 114v, ex inf. Mr. Lewis C. Loyd.

having belonged to Ralph le Strange of Knockin who had died in the previous year.³² Mary wife of Guy le Strange, father of Ralph,³³ was a tenant of the Warennes of Wormegay at Rungeton in Norfolk, and quite probably was sister to Beatrice, who is said to have been a Pierpoint.³⁴ Ralph died while in the king's service as Castellán of Carrechova in Wales,³⁵ leaving no children. His heirs were his sisters Margaret wife of Thomas Noel, Juliana wife of Richard de Wappenbury, and Maud wife of Griffin of Wales son of Geruard, also known as Griffin de Sutton. By a fine of 1199 it was agreed that Thomas Noel and Margaret should have Ovingdean,³⁶ but apparently some subsequent arrangement was made by which Juliana and Richard de Wappenbury had it, for it is later found in the possession of their heirs.

Richard de Wappenbury was a knight of Warwickshire in 1213.³⁷ His son Thomas took part in the rebellion against King John and forfeited his lands, but they were restored on the accession of Henry III.³⁸ Thomas was still alive in 1237.³⁹ He died without issue, his heirs being his three sisters, Margery, Joan, and Agnes. The pedigree is somewhat obscure, but apparently Margery married first Gerard Durendent and secondly (? Robert) de Wassingle; Joan had a daughter Alice who married Robert Revell or Ryvel; and Agnes married first Ralph de Queneby and secondly (? Richard) de Beyvill.⁴⁰ In 1248 these heirs recovered the advowson of Ovingdean against John de Burgh, lord of Portslade and therefore overlord of Ovingdean, and John de Wappenbury.⁴¹ This John, possibly a brother of Richard, seems to have had a son Thomas,⁴² whose son and namesake was still receiving rent from land in this parish in 1295,⁴³ but the manor of Ovingdean was divided among the sisters and passed in separate thirds to their descendants.

Agnes de Beyvill was still alive in 1261 when she gave to Richard de Beyvill a third of the advowson of the church of Ovingdean.⁴⁴ A Richard de Beyvill died in or before 1295, when his widow Present recovered $\frac{1}{3}$ of $\frac{1}{3}$ of the manor and advowson against John de Welle and Idonea his wife,⁴⁵ the nature of whose claim does not appear. Another Richard succeeded him and is mentioned in 1299⁴⁶ and in 1316.⁴⁷ In 1332 his son Robert and Elizabeth his wife settled a third of the manor and advowson upon themselves and Robert's son Richard, and his wife Elizabeth.⁴⁸ Robert son of Richard Beyvill the younger reached his majority



BEYVILL. Gules a chevron or between three bezants.



REVELL. Ermine a chevron gules and a border engrailed sable.

in 1363⁴⁹ and in 1375 settled the reversion of a third of the manor of Ovingdean upon his son Robert on his marriage with Alice daughter of John de Ryslee. The property was then held for life by William de Holynedale.⁵⁰ Possibly the younger Robert Beyvill died before his father, for in 1391 Robert son of Richard Beyvill granted his third of the manor to John Broke, John Scrase, and Gilbert Hamme,⁵¹ and in 1398 it was settled on John Broke and Agatha his wife.⁵² John Broke of Rodmell, the elder, had acquired in 1397 a rent of 4 marks from another third of the manor of Ovingdean,⁵³ and in 1400 John Broke and John Alfray conveyed land in Ovingdean and the advowson of the church to Richard Weyvill and Agatha his wife and the heirs of Agatha.⁵⁴ In 1402 Thomas de Beyvill claimed a third of the manor of Ovingdean against Richard Weyvill and Agatha, stating that he was son of Robert de Beyvill and grandson of the Richard and Elizabeth upon whom Ovingdean was settled in 1332.⁵⁵ Agatha, however, remained in possession and was a widow in 1419, when she granted her tenement in Ovingdean and the advowson of the church and the rent of 4 marks to John Gaynesford, William Cheyney, and others, apparently for a settlement upon herself.⁵⁶ Other conveyances took place in 1419 and 1420 between Agatha and her trustees,⁵⁷ and in July 1420 she granted to John Gaynesford, for his good counsel to her, all her land and pasture in Balsdean for forty years.⁵⁸ The purpose of these conveyances in 1419 and 1420 may have been to settle the reversion of the premises after Agatha's death upon John Gaynesford, who afterwards acquired the other thirds of the manor.

The third of the manor which fell to Joan, mother of Alice Revell, was held in 1253 by Robert Revell,⁵⁹ and it evidently descended in that family,⁶⁰ as Sir John Revell, who had succeeded by 1352,⁶¹ gave his land in Ovingdean to Thomas Mulston, retaining the advowson of the church. Nicholas Revell, brother and heir of Sir John, confirmed this gift in 1371.⁶² Thomas Mulston had leased the land in the same year to John Herbard of Rottingdean for life for a rent of 4 marks, which rent Thomas granted to Henry Workman, burgess of Lewes, and Alice his wife, and it passed eventually, in 1397, to John Broke of Rodmell.⁶³ In 1436 this third of the manor, known as 'Mulstonys part', was held by Thomas Lorkyn and Margery his wife and Andrew Mulston son of Margery. Broke's interest, viz. the rent of 4 marks, had by that time passed to John

³² Pipe R. 8 Rich. I, m. 17; Eyton, *History of Shropshire*, iii, 129, 130. Several charters of the Stranges of Shropshire were attested by members of the Pierpoint family (*ibid.* i, 211, 212).

³³ Stacey Grimaldi, *Rot. de Dominabus*, 28.

³⁴ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 323.

³⁵ Eyton, *op. cit.* iii, 129, 130.

³⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), no. 14; *Rot. de Oblat. et Fin.* (Rec. Com.), 64, 80; *Rot. Cur. Regis* (Rec. Com.), i, 234.

³⁷ *Curia Regis Rolls*, vii, 1213-15, p. 15.

³⁸ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), i, 311;

Warw. Feet of F. (Dugdale Soc.), i, no. 190.

³⁹ Dugdale, *History of Warwick*, 82;

Cal. Close, 1234-7, p. 552.

⁴⁰ Assize R. 909, m. 5; *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xl), 57; De Banco R. 64, m. 64.

⁴¹ Assize R. 909, m. 5.

⁴² *Cat. Anct. Deeds*, D. 66.

⁴³ De Banco R. 110, m. 262.

⁴⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. vii), 645.

⁴⁵ De Banco R. 110, m. 114 d.

⁴⁶ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* iii, p. 360.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* v, 350; cf. *ibid.* ix, 539.

⁴⁸ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 1814;

Dugdale, *History of Warwick*, 82.

⁴⁹ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* xi, 550; cf. *ibid.* ix,

539.

⁵⁰ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 2453.

⁵¹ Harl. MS. 392, fol. 75.

⁵² *Ibid.* fols. 75 d, 76.

⁵³ Harl. MS. 392, fols. 76 d, 77; and see below.

⁵⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 2702, 2709; Harl. MS. 392, fols. 78 d, 79, 80.

⁵⁵ De Banco R. Mich. 4 Hen. IV, m. 528 d.

⁵⁶ Harl. MS. 392, fols. 70, 69 d.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* 69 d, 80 d, 81.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.* fol. 87 d.

⁵⁹ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xl),

57.

⁶⁰ Dugdale, *op. cit.* 82; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* iii, 360.

⁶¹ Dugdale, *loc. cit.*; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* x, 51

⁶² Harl. MS. 392, fol. 72.

⁶³ *Ibid.* fol. 77 d.

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Gaynesford,⁶⁴ and in 1436 Thomas, Margery, and Andrew, here called Lorkyn, sold their third of the manor to him.⁶⁵

The descent of the third of the manor which fell to Margery de Wassingle is obscure; there is no evidence how long it remained in this family,⁶⁶ but it must be identical with the third of the manor of Ovingdean which was conveyed in 1366 by Robert Stafford and Denise his wife to Peter atte Wood and Lawrentia his wife for their lives, with remainder to Hugh Queeche and Elizabeth his wife and their issue, and in default, to Joan daughter of Peter and Lawrentia.⁶⁷ Hugh Queeche died seised of rent in Ovingdean in 1402, leaving a daughter Joan his heir,⁶⁸ and in 1402-3 John Norton and Joan his wife conveyed land and rent in Ovingdean and elsewhere to trustees.⁶⁹ Possibly Joan married secondly William Pyryman, for in 1407 John Code, rector of Ovingdean, and William Clerke, vicar of Falmer, conveyed to William Pyryman and Joan his wife and Richard Northon land in Ovingdean which William had granted to them.⁷⁰ On William Pyryman's death the land came by inheritance to Richard Northon of Southwick who transferred the estate in 1429 to John Gaynesford,⁷¹ who thus obtained the whole manor. It passed on his death in 1450 to his son John (ob. 1464) and his grandson Sir John Gaynesford, all of Crowhurst in Surrey.⁷² Sir John's son Sir John married Katherine daughter of Sir William Covert, who in his will, proved in 1494, referred to his daughter's estate at Ovingdean.⁷³



GAYNESFORD. *Argent a chevron gules between three running greyhounds proper.*

Before 1524 the manor had passed to William Everard of Albourne who in that year bequeathed the manor to his wife Jane until his son John should be 22. The manor, stocked with 1,200 sheep, was then to pass to John, who was also to have the 'ferm lands' which William held at Ovingdean, evidently the land belonging to Lewes Priory. This was to be stocked with 800 sheep, besides oxen, kine, hogs, and horses.⁷⁴

George, Lord Bergavenny, sold the wardship of John and the custody of his land in 1526 to his mother, but Jane subsequently complained that Lord Bergavenny had not kept his agreement with her.⁷⁵ John Everard died in 1541 having conveyed all his Sussex manors to Richard Shelley in trust for his two sisters Mary and Dorothy.⁷⁶ Mary married Richard Bellingham of Hangleton and Dorothy became the wife of Henry Goring.⁷⁷ Richard Bellingham and Mary settled their half in 1550 in tail male upon their sons Edward,

Henry, Richard, and Thomas successively.⁷⁸ After Richard's death Mary married George Goring, Principal Receiver of the Court of Wards, a brother of Sir Henry Goring, her sister's husband.⁷⁹ Mary died in 1602, having settled her share of Ovingdean Manor in 1595 upon her son Edward and her grandson Edward on the latter's marriage with Cecily daughter of Bartholomew Clarke, Dean of the Arches.⁸⁰ Edward Bellingham died in 1605, and his son Sir Edward, who was then 29 years of age,⁸¹ died childless at Shoreham in 1637, his heir being his cousin Cecily wife of Thomas West, daughter and heir of Sir Edward's late uncle Richard Bellingham.⁸² Cecily appears to have married secondly — Rolt, for in 1663 Cecily Rolt, widow, and Henry West (son of Thomas and Cecily) conveyed half the manor to William Alcock.⁸³ William had already acquired another half of the manor in 1648, as will be seen below, but it seems possible that the two parts remained separate and that this half is the estate said by Sir William Burrell to have belonged in 1785 to John Challen of Shermanbury.⁸⁴

The half of the manor which belonged to Dorothy Goring passed in 1594, on the death of her husband Sir Henry Goring of Burton, to their son William, who died seised of it in March 1602.⁸⁵ His son Henry Goring, afterwards Sir Henry, settled the half manor as jointure upon his second wife Elizabeth daughter of Edward Cresswell of Odiham, co. Hants, but in 1616 they sold part of the property and in 1617 the whole of it to pay Sir Henry's debts.⁸⁶ The purchaser, Edward Franceis,⁸⁷ sold this half of the manor to — Cotton,⁸⁸ and it was sold by Charles Cotton in 1648 to William Alcock,⁸⁹ of the Friars, Lewes, who died very soon after acquiring the other half of the manor in 1663, leaving two daughters, Hannah wife of Thomas Pellatt, eldest son of William Pellatt of Bignor, and Elizabeth wife of Richard Payne of Lewes.⁹⁰ Richard and Elizabeth conveyed the manor of Ovingdean in 1685-6 to William Pellatt, who may have been the son of Hannah and Thomas.⁹¹ The wills of Hannah Pellatt and of Richard Payne were both proved in 1693,⁹² but Elizabeth Payne lived until 1697.⁹³ Richard's son, another Richard, married as his second wife his cousin Mary Pellatt⁹⁴ and appears to have thus acquired the whole manor of Ovingdean, which descended after his death in 1725 to his son Richard, who died in 1733.⁹⁵ Half the Ovingdean property is then said to have descended to the youngest Richard's sister Mary⁹⁶ and ultimately to Richard's nephew Thomas Holles Payne of Redhall near Copthorne, Surrey,⁹⁷ who was holding it in 1766⁹⁸ and died in 1799.⁹⁹ The manor then seems to have passed to his cousin Elizabeth daughter of the Rev. George Newton, rector of Isfield, and wife of William Courthope Mabbott of Uckfield.¹ William and Eliza-

⁶⁴ Harl. MS. 392, fol. 70 d.

⁶⁵ Ibid. fols. 71, 71 d., 72; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 3002.

⁶⁶ For the pedigree of the family of Washingley see *V.C.H. Hunts.* iii, 227.

⁶⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 2316.

⁶⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. 4 Hen. IV, no. 25.

⁶⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 2747.

⁷⁰ Harl. MS. 392, fol. 72.

⁷¹ Ibid. fols. 73-4.

⁷² *Visit. of Suss.* (Harl. Soc.), 92.

⁷³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlv, 180.

⁷⁴ P.C.C. 30 Bodfeld.

⁷⁵ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 501, no. 15.

⁷⁶ P.C.C. 27 Alenger.

⁷⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 333; *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiv), 194.

⁷⁸ *Fines* (ibid. xx), 334.

⁷⁹ *Visit. of Surr.* (Harl. Soc.), 46.

⁸⁰ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cclxxii, 28; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxv, 17.

⁸¹ Ibid.

⁸² *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 109; *Fines* (ibid. xx), 334.

⁸³ Ibid.

⁸⁴ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 90; cf. Aldrington. John Challen held a manor of Ovingdean in 1787: Gamekeepers' Deputations, Lewes.

⁸⁵ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 483.

⁸⁶ Chan. Proc. (Ser. 2), bdle. 403, no. 97.

⁸⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 143.

⁸⁸ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 194.

⁸⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 334.

⁹⁰ Ibid. (East. 15 Chas. II); cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 34, 37 note; Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Ardingly), 290, 292.

⁹¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 334; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xiii, 34.

⁹² Ibid.

⁹³ Comber, op. cit. 290.

⁹⁴ Ibid. 291-2.

⁹⁵ Ibid. 292.

⁹⁶ Ibid. 293.

⁹⁷ Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 7 Geo. III; cf.

Add. MS. 5698, fol. 115.

⁹⁸ Comber, loc. cit.

¹ Anne daughter of Richard Payne and Elizabeth Alcock, m. (1688) William Newton of Southover. The Rev. George Newton was her grandson: Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Lewes), 201; (Ardingly), 291.

both made a conveyance of the manor in 1826,² and William was lord of the manor in about 1834.³

John de Friville gave 4½ acres of land to the Prior of Lewes and confirmed a gift of his father Richard.⁴ The demesne of Friville in Ovingdean is mentioned in 1252,⁵ and in 1262 Richard de Friville conveyed a messuage and a carucate of land in Ovingdean to Ralph de Radmeld.⁶ In 1439 the overlordship of a fifth of a knight's fee held by the heir of Ralph Radmeld was divided among the coheirs of the barony of Lewes.⁷ This was possibly the estate held by Roger Salman on his death in 1343 jointly with his wife Alice,⁸ of Earl Warenne. About 100 years later the heir of Thomas Salman, William Okherst, held 3 tenements and 4 virgates of land, each containing 10 acres in Ovingdean.⁹ Probably this estate afterwards became merged in the manor of Ovingdean, for at the beginning of the 17th century it was said that the manor held by the Bellinghams and Goring was once quarter of a fee of Ralph de Radmeld.¹⁰

Another estate in Ovingdean was held about 1430–40 by the Duke of Norfolk as part of his manor of Allington. It consisted of 2 tenements and 6 virgates (60 acres)¹¹ and descended with Allington Manor to Henry, Earl of Derby, who sold it in 1577 to Sir Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst.¹²

The church of *ST. CHURCH WULFRAM* stands on

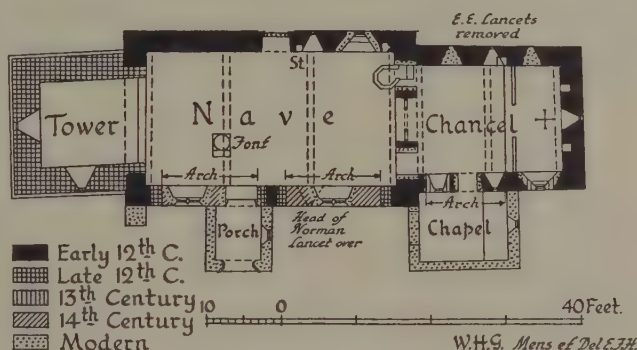
the hill-side to the south-west of the village. It is built of flint-faced chalk rubble with stone dressings, and consists of nave, chancel, and western tower, a modern south porch and a modern chapel to the south of the chancel. The nave has had a south aisle of two bays, but this has been destroyed. The existing nave and chancel are early-12th-century, and the tower belongs to the end of the same century.

There are no traces remaining of the earlier church, described as *ecclesiola*, referred to in Domesday Book, and this may well have been a small building of wood. If so, it must have been replaced by the present church within a generation after the Survey, as the existing nave and chancel were built, at the same time, at the very beginning of the 12th century. The walls of both have coursed flint-facing with a considerable proportion of herring-bone work¹³ and wide joints.

Towards the end of the 12th century two arches were cut in the south wall of the nave and an aisle built. At the same time, preparation was made for an aisle to the chancel by building an arch in its southern wall. This aisle, however, was never built, so the south window of the chancel was not interfered with. The west tower was added about this time. There is no definite evidence as to the date when the south aisle was destroyed and its arcade built up, but the French raiders of 1377 may have burnt the church and destroyed its south aisle as they did that of Rottingdean Church. Many of the stones of the blocked arcade are of a reddish tint, which may be due to the action of fire.

The two obtusely pointed arches of the blocked arcade are plainly visible on the south side of the nave, the head of the earlier window showing above the easternmost. The arches are now each filled with a two-light window in 14th-century style but apparently entirely modern. The lights are trefoil-headed, with a quatrefoil super-light under a pointed head. The western of these may be a copy of an original window in this position, but the eastern replaces a single-light window which existed in 1804 and is shown in a sketch of the church made in that year.¹⁴ The south porch and both its inner and outer doors are of no antiquity. The north side of the nave has a good early-12th-century doorway, now blocked. It has two broad but perfectly plain orders in very good masonry, the outer slightly in advance of the inner, and with but slight trace of the

PARISH CHURCH of ST. WULFRAM OVINGDEAN



former impost moulding. East of the doorway is a small single-light 12th-century window with semicircular head and a slight chamfer passing round the whole. Eastwards again is a large late-13th-century lancet window, much restored. In the north and east walls of the chancel are small 12th-century windows similar to that already described. The sites of two large lancet windows may be seen in the north wall of the chancel. They appear to have been removed and their openings refaced at a modern restoration. The western of the two seems to have been carried much lower than the other and was probably a low-side window. The south side of the chancel is mostly covered by the modern chapel, but eastwards of this is a large late-13th-century lancet, but much restored. The west tower is plain and unbuttressed. It has no set-offs, but a small double-chamfered string passes round it at approximately the level of the springing of the tower arch. Two small lights exist just above this string on the south and west sides of the tower. The belfry was lit by single lights to north, south, and west, but the western opening has been blocked. A low pyramidal cap-roof covers the tower.

The tower arch is pointed and has neither responds nor imposts. It is plain, with a small chamfer. The north side of the nave shows the reveal of the blocked

² *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 334.

³ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 189.

⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 125, P.R.O. Anct. D., A. 8027: Warwickshire land-owners of the name Friville were related to the le Strange family by the marriage of Agatha Friville with Hamon le Strange:

Dugdale, *Warwickshire*, 33.

⁵ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xl), ii, 57.

⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. vii), 700.

⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 187, 189, 190.

⁸ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* viii, 455.

⁹ *Lewes Chart.* ii, 12, 13.

¹⁰ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 194.

¹¹ *Lewes Chart.* ii, 12, 13.

¹² Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 19 Eliz.

¹³ See the sketch by P. M. Johnston in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xli, 180.

¹⁴ See the Sharpe Collection of views of Sussex churches.

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north door, with a plain semicircular arch. Just east of it is a simple stoup of apparently contemporary date. The deep splay of the 12th-century window and the much restored reveal of the later lancet, east of it, may be seen, the latter with a segmental-pointed scoinson arch. The chancel arch is 12th-century, perfectly plain, with a semicircular head. On either side of it have been cut modern arches of a similar character, new imposts having been added at the same time. Recessed in the north wall at the north-east corner of the nave may be seen a portion of a small late-12th-century arch. This consists of the upper part of the west face of the respond, a mutilated impost, and one voussoir. The vertical moulding has an edge-roll, and another roll separated from it by a wide shallow hollow. The impost has been hacked back to the wall-face, but was originally undercut. The arch had an arris-roll, with a hollow, separated from it by a fillet. The position of this respond thus embedded in the north wall is puzzling, and it is not easy to find an entirely satisfactory solution of the problem that it presents. It has been suggested that it is part of an earlier chancel arch and that the nave was reconstructed by building the new nave wall inside and south of the old one. The character of the mouldings, however, is too late for this to be feasible, and the most probable explanation is that the arch was inserted as a reredos or frame for the nave altar, but was made too wide for the space available and could only be completed by thus recessing the north respond.

In the west gable of the nave, over the chancel arch, is visible an original small 12th-century circular window. The south side of the nave shows the modern or restored reveals of the two 14th-century-style windows. The blocked arcade does not show.

The deeply splayed reveals of the north, east, and south windows of the chancel are noticeable internally. The southern window now looks into the modern chapel, within which is the obtusely pointed arch to the intended chancel aisle. The exterior of the early-12th-century light cuts the later arch, which was thus left imperfect to avoid blocking the window. In the wall within the arch is a 13th-century single-light low-side window, next to the modern doorway.

The chancel floor was originally below that of the nave, and was raised in 1801 to its present level. Thus the two plain rectangular aumbries in the east wall of the chancel are now very near the floor, as is also the similar recess, possibly a primitive Easter Sepulchre, near the northern end of the altar rail. The 14th-century rood-screen remains in the chancel arch. It is of very simple design, with one light on either side of the central opening, the doors of which are modern. The head of each opening has simple foliated tracery. The

font is modern and there are no ancient monuments. The roofs are modern, that of the chancel being ceiled and painted with a design of conventional foliage and birds.

There is one uninscribed bell.¹⁵

The plate consists of a silver communion cup of 1726; another of about 1860; and a modern paten. There are also a flagon and two plates of pewter.¹⁶

The existing registers begin in 1705.

The advowson of Ovingdean be-
ADVOWSON longed to the manor held in 1195 by

Ralph L'Estrange and, later, presentations to the church were made in turn by the owners of the thirds into which the manor was divided. The whole of the advowson appears to have been acquired by Richard Weyvill and Agatha his wife, who in 1400 conveyed it with their share of the manor to John Brook and John Alfray,¹⁷ and it is mentioned in other conveyances of that part of the manor at about that time.¹⁸ Agatha sold the whole of the advowson in 1419 to John Gaynesford,¹⁹ who presented to the church in 1440.²⁰

In 1544 the advowson was divided like the manor and alternate presentations were made by the coheirs of John Everard, namely his sisters Mary and Dorothy with their respective husbands Richard Bellingham and Henry Goring,²¹ and descended with their moieties of the manor until Thomas West and Cecily his wife made a conveyance of the Bellingham moiety in 1637 to George Churcher and others,²² and Charles Cotton conveyed the Goring moiety to William Alcock in 1648.²³

In 1623, however, the advowson was conveyed by Richard, Earl of Dorset, and Anne his wife to trustees,²⁴ and in 1656 Richard, Earl of Dorset, nephew of the above Richard, held it.²⁵ Richard Bridger, esq., presented in 1670 and 1677 and the Bishop of Chichester in 1680.²⁶ By 1724, however, the patronage had returned to the lord of the manor since Richard Payne presented in that year and his widow Elizabeth in 1735.²⁷ She subsequently married Richard Rideout,²⁸ who presented in 1746;²⁹ Richard Rideout, junior, presented John Rideout in 1751, and the Rev. John Rideout of Lewes claimed the advowson in 1780. This claim was contradicted by Thomas Holles Payne, who claimed the advowson as an appendage to Ovingdean farm.³⁰ William Marshall was patron in 1804, 1828, and 1835,³¹ but died about this time when the advowson passed to the Rev. John Marshall, the rector.³² He died in 1841, leaving instructions for the sale of the advowson,³³ which was bought by the Rev. Alfred Stead, who was still both patron and incumbent in 1870.³⁴ The Rev. Arthur Ingleby of Ilford was patron in 1889,³⁵ but apparently transferred the advowson in that year to Dr. C. N. Ingleby.³⁶ The advowson now belongs to the Society for Maintenance of Faith.

ROTTINGDEAN

Rotingedene (xi cent.); Rottingdena (xii cent.).
Rottingdean parish was in two separate portions, the northern being the ancient chapelry of Balsdean. The two were approximately of the same area, and were joined

only at a single point, a furlong east of the summit of High Hill, which is almost exactly half-way between Brighton and Newhaven. The portions combined cover an area of 3,154 acres, and had a population in 1931 of

¹⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 219.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* liv. 233.

¹⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 2702.

¹⁸ *Ibid.* 2709; *Harl. MS.* 392, fols.

78 d., 79.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* fol. 70.
²⁰ *Reg. of Bp. Praty* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iv), 116.

²¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 333-4; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lv, 263, 267.

²² *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 334.

²³ *Ibid.* 333.

²⁴ *Feet of F. Div. Co. Trin.* 21 Jas. I.

²⁵ *Recov. R. Trin.* 1656, ro. 107.

²⁶ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ *Add. MS.* 39342, fol. 68. She bequeathed the advowson to her brother-in-law John Rideout.

²⁹ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

³⁰ *Add. MS.* 5698, fol. 115.

³¹ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

³² *Horsfield, Sussex*, i, 189.

³³ *Add. MS.* 39342, fol. 66.

³⁴ *Lewis, Top. Dict.*; *Lower, History of Sussex*, ii, 72-3.

³⁵ *Add. MS.* 39342, fol. 66.

³⁶ *Chich. Dioc. Year Bk.* (1889).



FALMER: THE OLD CHURCH, 1802
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)



ROTTINGDEAN CHURCH: FROM THE SOUTH-EAST, c. 1800
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)

2,906. The Balsdean part of the parish surrounds the south-eastern spur of Bullock Hill known as The Bostle, and the southern portion spreads out from the summit of High Hill towards the coast, embracing the lower end of the Balsdean coombe and another farther west in which is situated the village of Rottingdean. The soil is chalk and the parish was entirely agricultural until recent years. The village is now being developed, however, as a holiday resort and suburb of Brighton. There are some good 18th-century houses surrounding the village green, and a few old cottages along the main street and on the hill-side south and east of the pond. Farther from the green the cottages seem to be mainly

but the general evidence points to the village having been originally an inland agricultural settlement similar to Ovingdean in the adjacent coombe.

By the beginning of the 19th century Rottingdean had become celebrated for the salubrious properties of its wells, said to be nearly empty at high water but to rise as the tide ebbed. Baths were then established, and machines provided for sea bathing.⁴

The old windmill which stands to the west of the village on Beacon Hill is a landmark for ships in the English Channel. It may have belonged to the tene-ment called Chaloners which for a long time belonged to the Ockenden family, for in 1616 Richard Ockenden and his wife Barbara sold it, with land in Rottingdean, to Richard Scrase.⁵ It afterwards passed to Charles Geere, owner of Balsdean Manor, who by his will in 1740 excepted this windmill from a bequest to his wife Elizabeth of all his freehold and copyhold land.⁶

Balsdean is a lonely hamlet in the heart of the Downs and unapproachable by road. It is separated from Rottingdean by High Hill, over which a rough track passes. It is in two portions, represented by the farms of Norton and Sutton, the remains of the chapel being near the former.

Balsdean Chapel stands on the hill-side immediately above the west side of the remains of the little hamlet. Only the nave remains, and this is desecrated and used as a stable. The building is very small, is built of flint with stone dressings, and appears to date from the

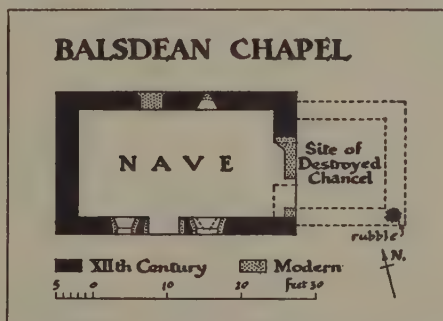
12th century. The stone quoins have all been removed. The north wall shows the remains of the original doorway internally, but the external dressings have been removed and the opening blocked up. East of the doorway is a very small light with a rounded head and deep internal splay, blocked externally. The window opposite has been enlarged in recent times, and another made west of it, suggesting that the building was once used as a cottage. Between the two windows is a large modern



ROTTINGDEAN: THE CHURCH

19th-century, some of them being faced with pebbles from the sea-shore. On the north and east sides of the village new roads have been laid out and developed. A new arterialized coast road passes by the southern end of the village, successor to others destroyed by erosion.

The coast at this point has been subject to erosion from early times. The inhabitants in 1340 stated that since 1292, 50 acres of arable land in the parish had been destroyed by the sea; a further 240 acres of land were lying uncultivated 'by reason of the poor quality of the land and the inability of those who used to cultivate it'. The men of Rottingdean at that date valued their land at 4d. an acre.¹ A worse disaster befell in 1377 when the French landed at Rottingdean. The Prior of Lewes gathered an army of the country people to oppose them, but was defeated, and he, Sir John Fallisle, Sir Thomas Cheyne, John Brocas, and Thomas de Wilford, clerk of Chancery and prebendary of Hempsted, were taken prisoner and released only after large ransoms had been paid.² The French did not reach Lewes but Rottingdean was burnt, and in 1421 the inhabitants petitioned for relief from the fifteenth, which was assessed at £6 10s., asserting that this payment which they had for a long time made prevented them from rebuilding their town. They stated also that a great part of the township was surrounded by the sea,³



doorway, the three openings together completely transforming the south wall of the nave. The impost of the

¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* i, 59, 61, quoting Nonae Rolls.

² Capgrave, *Chron. of Engl.* (Rolls Ser.), 233; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xii, 42, note 1; xv, 135; *Cal. Close*, 1377-81, p. 135; *Cal.*

Fine R. 1377-83, p. 157.

³ *Rot. Parl.* iv, 160a. In the early 17th century there was a waste or common lying on the east side of the village, west of the church, where there had once been

tenements: *Bk. of J. Rowe* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv), 65.

⁴ Lewis, *Top. Dict.*; *Gent. Mag.* lxxi, 1082. ⁵ Feet of F. *Suss. Mich.* 14 Jas. I.

⁶ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 31 d.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

chancel arch have been removed, and the south part of the east wall destroyed and filled with a modern brick wall with a large doorway in it. A mound covers the site of the chancel, but a mass of rubble masonry showing through the turf probably marks the site of the south-east angle.

As late as 1579 the vicar of Rottingdean was bound to say service four times a year in the chapel of the 'village' of Balsdean.⁷

The lord of the manor of Rottingdean claimed goods thrown up by the sea, the custom being that the lord had half the goods or their value, and the finder the other half. The men of Rottingdean were at times over-anxious to claim goods as wreckage. In 1314 and again in 1321 and 1335 they were accused of taking wine and wool which had been cast ashore from ships from which some of the mariners had escaped alive, for which reason the goods were not truly sea wreck.⁸ Owing to the value of the sea wrecks it was a matter of importance that the boundaries between the parishes of Brighton and Rottingdean upon the sea-shore should be well defined. In 1606 inquiry was held to settle it. The homage returned that the boundary passed through the midst of a cave called Huns Stable,⁹ and Hugh Ockenden, an old man of over 80 years of age, said that he had often seized to the use of Lord Abergavenny wreckage on the east side from the middle of the cave.¹⁰

Doctor Thomas Hooker, who became vicar of Rottingdean in 1792, had a school in the vicarage house at which several famous men were educated. Cardinal Manning and Edward Bulwer-Lytton, afterwards Lord Lytton, were among his pupils. The latter was at Rottingdean from about 1810 to 1818, and showed such great promise that Dr. Hooker recommended that he should be sent to a public school.¹¹ One of the Duke of Wellington's nephews was educated here, as was a son of Jerome Bonaparte during his father's residence in England.¹² Sir Edward Burne Jones lived at North End House from 1880 till his death in 1898 and his art is represented by windows in the church. Rudyard Kipling lived at the Elms from about 1897 to 1903. Thomas Carlyle is supposed to have stayed in one of the Cliff houses, not now in existence, and Harrison Ainsworth wrote his romance, *Ovingdean Grange*, at Rottingdean while staying with Miss Beard.¹³

Nicholas and Richard Beard of Rottingdean were staunch members of the Society of Friends. In 1660 a meeting was held in the house of Nicholas at Rottingdean;¹⁴ Richard was imprisoned in 1659 for non-payment of tithes, and during the next twenty years both suffered much persecution.¹⁵

Both the east and west sides of High Hill are covered with ancient fields, but those on the latter slopes, with the site of an Early Iron Age settlement,¹⁶ are being obliterated by the building development around Woodingdean farm-house. More building is now beginning

round Wick Farm at the extreme west end of Balsdean. In the centre of the Balsdean part of the parish is an isolated hill called the Bostle, upon the summit of which are a number of barrows.¹⁷

An engraved and enamelled plate of copper found in the churchyard, probably part of a bookbinding or of a shrine, is now in the museum at Barbican House, Lewes.¹⁸

ROTTINGDEAN was held before the *MANORS* Conquest by Haminc of Earl Godwin. It was assessed for 2 hides and was part of Frog Firle which the Count of Mortain had in his rape in 1086. Haminc still held 2 hides in Frog Firle of the count in 1086, and the 2 hides in Rottingdean were held by Hugh of William de Warenne.¹⁹

The Earls Warenne subsequently held a manor of Rottingdean in demesne. A hide of land there was released in 1235 by Ralph son of Richard to William, Earl Warenne,²⁰ and in 1260 John de Ferles and Maud his wife gave a carucate of land in Rottingdean to John de Warenne, Earl of Surrey, in exchange for the manor of Twineham.²¹ The earl's manor was part of the barony of Lewes and descended with it until 1439-40²² when, on the death of Beatrice, Countess of Arundel, this manor was assigned to Elizabeth wife of Edward, Lord Bergavenny.²³ The manor has since descended with the barony of Abergavenny.²⁴

Edward, Lord Bergavenny, leased the site and demesnes of the manor about 1604 to Sir George Goring for three lives. Before this Hugh Ockenden had farmed the land for a great part of his long life of over 80 years.²⁵ The demesnes included 166 acres of arable and 944 acres of sheep pasture called Earlesdeane *alias* Barendens, the Loose down, the Hill and Lustilden, and the Down by West Town; on the two last named the tenants had grazing rights.²⁶

The Prior and Convent of Lewes received gifts of several estates in Rottingdean in the 11th and 12th centuries. William de Warenne the second gave them half his land of Rottingdean as it was divided when the church of St. Pancras was dedicated, and confirmed to them a hide of land given by William de Pierpont, and the tithes of the land of Hugh son of Golda there.²⁷ About 1100 Earl William and his wife Isabel and Hugh de Pierpoint confirmed this gift.²⁸ About 1147 Ralph de Angieus gave a hide of land, and his gift was confirmed by Rainald de Warenne in the absence of the earl.²⁹ Richard de Baliol, for the soul of his brother Ralph, gave a yearly rent of 12d. from land in Rottingdean which Stephen his man held of him.³⁰

In 1428 the Prior of Lewes's land in Rottingdean was held as a quarter of a knight's fee.³¹ It appears to have become part of his manor of Falmer, for in 1535 assized rents in Rottingdean were included in Falmer Manor,³² which at the present day extends into Rottingdean.

⁷ Add. MS. 39447, fols. 2, 3.

⁸ *Cal. Pat.* 1313-17, p. 247; 1317-21, p. 605; 1334-8, p. 203.

⁹ Also called Blackrock.

¹⁰ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 66.

¹¹ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

¹² *Suss. N. & Q.* v, 109. For reminiscences of Rottingdean in mid-Victorian times, by Mrs. Stanley Baldwin, see *ibid.* iv, *passim*.

¹³ *Ibid.* v, 72.

¹⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxix, 74.

¹⁵ Besse, *Collection of Sufferings of People called Quakers*, i, 711-17, 720, 729.

¹⁶ See paper by G. A. Holleyman in *Antiquity*, vol. ix, map opposite p. 448.

¹⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xv, 243; a report of excavation of a tumulus at Rottingdean in 1863.

¹⁸ It is fully described in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* v, 105-10.

¹⁹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 437b, 413a.

²⁰ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 297.

²¹ *Ibid.* vii, 641.

²² *Feud. Aids*, v, 129, 135; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ix, no. 54; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 4 Hen. V, no. 54; 18 Hen. VI, no. 28.

²³ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc.

xxxiv), 189.

²⁴ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 16 Edw. IV, no. 66, *ibid.* (Ser. 2), ccxxiii, 58; cccxcix, 157; *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 62; Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 187.

²⁵ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 62, 66.

²⁶ Add. MS. 5698, fol. 139.

²⁷ *Lewes Chart.* i, 11, 21, 22, 37.

²⁸ *Ibid.* i, 33.

²⁹ *Ibid.* i, 55; ii, 44.

³⁰ *Ibid.* ii, 45.

³¹ *Feud. Aids*, v, 162.

³² *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 329.

About 1200 Ela daughter of Earl Hamelin de Warenne and widow of William Fitzwilliam gave to the abbey of Roche (Yorks.) 5 virgates of land in Rottingdean.³³ This the Yorkshire abbey transferred to the Dean and Chapter of Chichester, who in 1248 conveyed it to the Priory of Sele (near Bramber) in return for an annual payment in support of the chantry of Holy Cross and St. Augustine in the cathedral.³⁴ The subsequent history of the estate is unknown.

The manor of *BALSDEAN* [Ballesdena (xii cent.); Ballesden (xiv cent.); Ballysden, Ballesden, Baldesden (xvi cent.)] was granted to the Prior and Convent of Lewes by Earl Hamelin de Warenne about 1175 as 100 shillingsworth of land, namely, 2½ hides and a virgate.³⁵ The manor was conveyed in 1537 by Robert the last prior to King Henry VIII,³⁶ by whom it was granted in 1538 to Thomas Cromwell,³⁷ but after his forfeiture it passed again to the Crown. The farm of the manor and of a tenement called Perchers and pasture for 600 sheep was leased by the Crown in 1545 to Richard Selme for 21 years.³⁸ Before 1557 the manor had passed to Thomas Gratwicke³⁹ who died on 12 January 1559, leaving a son Richard, aged 7 years.⁴⁰ In 1581 Richard and his wife Anne conveyed the manor to their cousin Roger Gratwicke of Tortington⁴¹ who died in 1596, having bequeathed the manor to his brother and heir Philip and to Roger son of Philip.⁴² The younger Roger predeceased his father who died in 1598 leaving three daughters,⁴³ the eldest of whom, Anne, with her husband Hugh Keate, sold the manor in 1609 to Sir William Gratwicke of Tortington,⁴⁴ who held the wardship of Elizabeth, the other surviving daughter of Philip.⁴⁵ Sir William in 1613 bequeathed the manor of Balsdean to his third son Roger, who was to marry his father's ward, Elizabeth Gratwicke.⁴⁶ From Roger Gratwicke the manor passed to his nephew William in 1653⁴⁷ and from William in 1664 to his brother Francis, who left it to his nephew, Oliver Weekes, in 1670.⁴⁸ In 1679 Oliver Weekes and Philippa his wife and Robert Leves, clerk, and Elizabeth his wife conveyed the manor to William Coby, an attorney.⁴⁹ It was probably he who as William Coby of Southover sold the manor in 1699 to Charles Geere of Hangleton, the manor and farm being then in the occupation of Nicholas Beard. Charles raised several mortgages upon the estate and on his death, between 1740 and 1745, his creditors being very pressing, his



GRATWICKE. Or three roundels azure each charged with a fret or.

widow Elizabeth sold the estate in June 1745 to John Beard, one of the mortgagees.⁵⁰ By his will, dated April 1772, John Beard bequeathed the manor to his nephew Stenning Beard.⁵¹ The manor remained in the Beard family until 1792, when Kitty Beard and James Cook the younger and Mary his wife conveyed it to Francis Whitfield.⁵² In 1800 William Alexander and Peggy his wife conveyed it to Richard Andrew Turner.⁵³

In 1782 Balsdean farm contained about 1,000 acres of land, tithe free, and an adjoining farm called Norton paid all its great tithes to it, as did 100 acres on another farm.⁵⁴

Two messuages and 1½ hides of land in Balsdean, which belonged to the prebend of the precentor of the church of South Malling, were granted by the canons in 1262 to Peter de Worth for his life.⁵⁵ The canons had been accustomed to hunt at Stanmer and Balsdean from time out of mind, but in 1274 they complained that the Earl of Surrey had ousted them from this right.⁵⁶ In 1366 it was said that the canons had had from time out of mind certain tenants at Balsdean who owed suit at their courts and had to serve as reeves at South Malling and Stanmer.⁵⁷ In 1535 the canons were receiving rents amounting to 6s. 8d. from Balsdean.⁵⁸ The deanery and college were granted in 1547 to Sir Thomas Palmer of Angmering.⁵⁹ Possibly the canon's land was the estate mentioned above called Norton Farm in Balsdean. In 1608 Sir Anthony Shirley is said to have claimed by letters patent the whole farm of Balsdean, consisting of 262 acres of pasturage on the Down.⁶⁰ It seems possible that this is the same farm which was by his will, dated 11 June 1670, bequeathed by Walter Burrell of Cuckfield in trust for the education of his grandson Walter, son of his son Ninian.⁶¹

An estate or manor of *CHALONERS* may have originated in land in Rottingdean and Balsdean which John Osborn of London and Alice his wife conveyed in 1456 to Thomas Chaloner and others.⁶² William Chaloner, his grandson,⁶³ conveyed the manor in 1541 to Hugh Ockenden for a yearly rent of £6 13s. 4d., payable after the death of Susan wife of William Purchyn.⁶⁴ The manor remained in the Ockenden family till 1614 when Richard Ockenden sold it to John Stanfield.⁶⁵ Richard Scrase held it in 1616, as a messuage and 8 virgates of land, late Okendens.⁶⁶

George Bord or Boord, who had married Thomasyne, daughter of Richard Ockenden of Ashford, Kent,⁶⁷ died in February 1581 seized of the reversion of the £6 13s. 4d. rent, his heir being his son Stephen⁶⁸ to whom Ninian Chaloner conveyed the rent in the latter part of the year.⁶⁹ John Head and Jane his wife and

³³ Salzman, *Chartulary of Sele*, no. 37; cf. *ibid.* no. 65. ³⁴ *Ibid.* no. 36.

³⁵ *Lewes Chart*, i, 45.

³⁶ Feet of F. Div. Co. Mich. 29 Hen. VIII; *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 329.

³⁷ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74).

³⁸ *Ibid.* xx (1), g. 1068 (17); Add. MS. 5683, fol. 27; Min. Accts. Hen. VIII, 3498. ³⁹ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 27.

⁴⁰ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 488; Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Horsham), 115; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 36, 65.

⁴¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 18; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 65.

⁴² *Ibid.* 43-4; *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 491.

⁴³ *Ibid.* 492; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 45.

⁴⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 246; *Suss.*

Arch. Coll. ix, 37, 45, 65. Sir William was the younger son of Thomas Gratwicke who died in 1559.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.* 45. Mary, the second daughter, died in 1603. Cf. *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 494.

⁴⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 37-8; *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 495.

⁴⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 40-1, 65.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

⁴⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 18. Philippa was a daughter of Sir Walter Raleigh; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 39.

⁵⁰ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 31 d.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*

⁵² *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 18.

⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 32.

⁵⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. vii), 673.

⁵⁶ *Rot. Hund.* (Rec. Com.), i, 207; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 115.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* xxi, 160.

⁵⁸ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 337.

⁵⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* v, 139.

⁶⁰ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 188.

⁶¹ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 32; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xliii, 17.

⁶² *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 3137.

⁶³ Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Ardingly), 69.

⁶⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 91.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶⁶ *Bk. of F. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiv), 63. Scrase may have held it, perhaps as tenant, in 1603.

⁶⁷ Comber, *Suss. Gen.* (Ardingly), 19.

⁶⁸ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiii), 77.

⁶⁹ *Fines* (*ibid.* xix), 92; cf. Comber, *op. cit.* 70.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

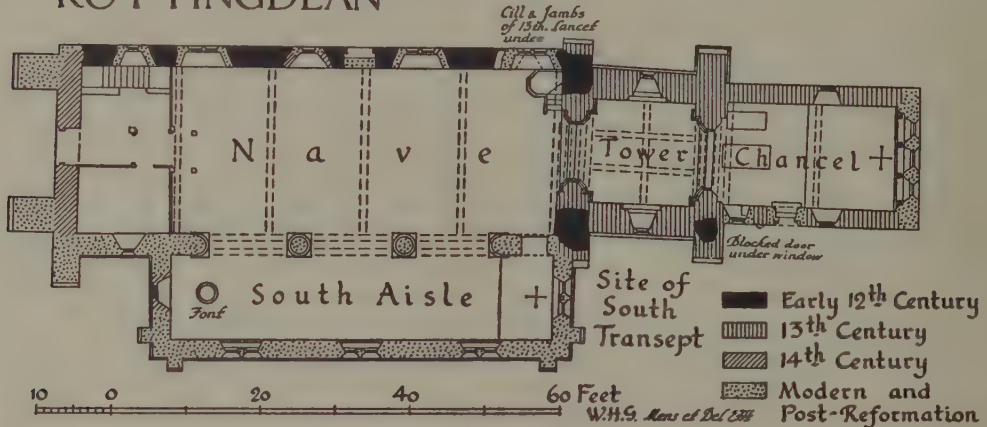
Thomas Beard and Cicely his wife conveyed it in 1689 to Edward Head and Richard Beard.⁷⁰ Richard Beard was owner of Chaloners when he died in 1713. His wife Mary survived until 1726, and their only daughter Elizabeth married Henry Streatfield of Chiddingstone.⁷¹

One knight's fee in Rottingdean was held in 1242–3 of Earl Warenne⁷² and the overlordship descended with the rape, passing in 1439 to Edmund Lenthall.⁷³ In 1536 it was held of the joint lords of the manor of Houndean (q.v.),⁷⁴ and still owed suit at Lewes in the early 17th century.⁷⁵

This fee of *BALSHILL* belonged to Hugh de Cressy, who married Margery, or Margaret, elder daughter and co-heir of William de Chesney,⁷⁶ and their

fee in 1242 by the Abbot of Sibton,⁸⁴ and in 1245 was leased by the abbey to Richard de Hulme, Dean of Lewes, for life, he undertaking to build a house worth £20 on the land.⁸⁵ Possibly the abbot soon after this exchanged the land, which was far distant from his other properties, and in 1325 it was settled as a messuage and carucate of land in Rottingdean on William atte Rye for life, with remainder to his son William and Sara his wife and their children.⁸⁶ This fee by 1536 was held of the manor of Houndean by Edward Markwicke⁸⁷ and had passed in the early 17th century to the heirs of Walter Fawkenor.⁸⁸ In 1790 it was represented by 160 acres of land called Bazhill *alias* Ballishill, part of the manor of Balsdean.⁸⁹

PARISH CHURCH of ST. MARGARET ROTTINGDEAN



son Roger recovered it in 1205.⁷⁷ Next year Roger granted half a knight's fee in Rottingdean and 'Balleshild' to Roger (de Cressy) son of William, and the other half to Ralph de Duverent for their lives.⁷⁸ Osbert Giffard claimed these two half-fees against these grantees in 1210, and Roger de Cressy the younger put in his claim.⁷⁹ In 1212 Osbert was still claiming one half-fee against Roger son of William, who called Roger de Cressy son of Hugh to warranty.⁸⁰ About this time one of the Rogers de Cressy gave to Walter son of Walter Malet all his property in Rottingdean and 'Balleshilde', except the service of Osbert Giffard, in return for which Walter and Osbert were between them to do the service due from one knight's fee to Earl Warenne.⁸¹ Presumably after the death of this Walter Malet, Roger gave to Sibton Abbey (Suffolk) land in Postwick (Norf.) in return for which they were to pay to Margery widow of Walter Malet 2½ marks yearly in discharge of her dower from her husband's lands in Balshill;⁸² and Robert Malet, apparently brother of Walter, subsequently gave these Sussex lands to Sibton as ¾ knight's fee, which grant Roger confirmed.⁸³ This land was held as one knight's

The church of *ST. MARGARET* stands *CHURCH* on rising ground on the east side of the village green. It is built of rubble and flint with stone dressings. The plan comprises a long nave with shorter south aisle of three bays, and a chancel separated from the nave by a tower which is now axial but has replaced an earlier central tower.

The nave is probably early-12th century, the west wall rebuilt after a collapse in the 14th century or later. The lower parts of the walls of tower and chancel may also be of the 12th century, but the two as they stand appear to be a rebuilding of the early 13th century. The south aisle with its arcade is modern except for the west window, which is a 14th-century light re-used.

The church appears to have been originally cruciform, with a central tower. The foundations of a south transept, exactly the same length as the present chancel, were discovered in 1909. The cross-arm was laid out askew to the long axis of the building, the nave of which was slightly wider, and the chancel slightly narrower, than the width of the tower and transept. Early in the 13th century the whole of the eastern arm appears to have been rebuilt, possibly owing to the tower having

⁷⁰ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 92.

⁷¹ Add. MS. 5698, fol. 140.

⁷² *Bk. of Fees*, 690.

⁷³ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 18 Hen. VI, no. 28; *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 187, 192.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.* 6.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.* 195.

⁷⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxx, 27.

⁷⁷ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (Rec. Com.), 33.

⁷⁸ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 106, 107.

⁷⁹ *Cur. Reg. R.* vi, 92. Both these Roger de Cressys had sons called Roger: Dugdale, *Mon.* v, 559; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iii, 528, note c.

⁸⁰ *Cur. Reg. R.* vi, 222.

⁸¹ Arundel MS. 221, fol. 84 d.

⁸² *Ibid.* 83.

⁸³ *Ibid.* 84 d.

⁸⁴ *Bk. of Fees*, 670.

⁸⁵ Arundel MS. 221, fol. 85.

⁸⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 1651.

⁸⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 6.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.* 195.

⁸⁹ Notice of sale in *Sussex Weekly Advertiser*, Aug. 1790.

collapsed eastwards. The transept was abandoned, and the tower and chancel restored, the former as an axial tower, the ribs of the transept walling being taken up as lateral buttresses. At the same time the nave was widened slightly to the south, and an aisle of four bays constructed, to cover some two-thirds of the eastern part of its south wall. The widening of the nave threw its axis out of line with that of the eastern arm, and the new tower arches were centralized with the nave and are thus eccentric to both tower and chancel. The church appears to have been burnt by the French in 1377, and it may have been at this time that the aisle was abandoned and its arcade blocked. The west wall of the nave fell, perhaps about this time, and was rebuilt on the old foundations, with the west door central with the original nave, and thus eccentric to the present west wall. The south aisle was rebuilt in 1856,⁹⁰ much wider than the original, and in three bays instead of four.

The west wall of the nave shows, externally, a 14th-century doorway flanked by a pair of very large buttresses of doubtful antiquity. The south-west angle of the nave is supported by a modern buttress, and the north-west angle shows clumsy rebuilding, the sandstone quoins packed together anyhow in very inefficient fashion. The adjoining north wall of the nave shows the extent of the collapse which necessitated this rebuilding. The north wall of the nave has five windows, the middle one of which is possibly early-14th-century, but is much restored. The remainder are modern, but under the sill of the easternmost is the lower part of a 13th-century single-light window. Above and west of this is a small light roughly formed in the blocked-up reveal of one of the original windows of the nave. The blocking contains portions of a small 12th-century shaft. Near the middle of the north wall is the lower part of the original north doorway. Only the outer order remains, the rest of the stone dressings having been removed and the opening filled up.

The north wall of the tower has a series of three fine lancet windows, one over the other. The two lateral buttresses each have a set-off at the level of the nave eaves, and another near the top. The east wall of the western buttress shows some of the original 12th-century ashlar in its lower part. The east and west faces of the tower have each a small single-light window to the belfry, and the summit is roofed with a pyramidal cap, having on the west side a small dormer for a clock, now removed. Early-12th-century stones have been reused in the tower walling.

The north wall of the chancel contains a single-light window, much restored. The whole of the east wall was rebuilt in 1856, and shows a triplet of lancets instead of a three-light 14th-century window as before the restoration. The south wall of the chancel shows a single-light window similar to the one opposite, and west of this a modern priest's door. Next the tower is a blocked-up doorway once leading to a destroyed vestry. In the blocking has been inserted a small single-light window.

The south wall of the tower is similar to the northern. The western buttress has on its south face the weather moulding of the original aisle roof, and its eastern face shows 12th-century ashlar in its lower parts. Some of the internal quoins are of a curious re-entrant form. The whole of the south sides of the nave and its aisle

are modern. The west window of the latter, however, is a 14th-century single light with foliated head under a quatrefoil, the whole probably removed from another part of the church.

The west end of the nave is filled by a modern porch, its screens supporting an organ loft. The south aisle with its arcade is modern, and the only old feature in the nave is the remains in the north wall of the easternmost of its original windows. The western jamb remains, and shows the window to have been in a lofty reveal with a semicircular head and a rather slight splay. The floor of the tower is raised three steps above that of the nave. The east and west tower arches rise from sturdy semi-octagonal responds with plain chamfered plinths and capped in simple fashion with a heavy rounded abacus, a short undercut bell, and a small roll-moulding. The arches are rather primitive, having two orders and a wall-arch, each order differing considerably in width from the next, and finished only with a very small chamfer. The western arch is much restored. The tower space is lit on either side by a single lofty lancet window. The masonry on the south side shows signs of fire.

The chancel is three steps higher than the tower space. The east wall, with its triplet of lancets, is modern. The side windows are much restored, but are probably 13th-century in general form. There is a modern priest's door in the south wall, west of which is a doorway, the head of which has been taken down and clumsily rebuilt, probably when the door was reopened to provide access to the destroyed 17th-century vestry, the chancel floor having been raised in the interim. In its blocking is a small single-light window, possibly brought from another part of the church, and reopened in 1922.⁹¹

The roofs of nave, chancel, and aisle are all modern, but some of the old timbers may have been re-used in the chancel roof. There is no clerestory, the aisle being roofed by an extension of the south slope of the nave roof.

The font stands at the west end of the south aisle, and is a modern copy of the original, the bowl of which lies on the sill of the window nearby. It had a central column with four surrounding shafts, and is of the 13th century, closely resembling that in Iford Church. On the same window-sill are portions of early-12th-century moulded stones, and others are arranged outside the west door of the church, examples of the elaborate ornamentation of the original building.

The window glass in the tower-space and chancel was made by William Morris from the designs of Sir Edward Burne-Jones. No medieval monuments survive.

There is one bell, by John Rudhall, 1791,⁹² and another of later date.

The plate consists of a silver communion cup and paten of 1719; another cup of 1832; a paten of 1901; a flagon of 1875, presented in 1883; and two pewter alms dishes.⁹³

The registers begin in 1558.

The church of Rottingdean was *ADVOWSON* given to the Prior and Convent of Lewes by William de Warenne the second.⁹⁴ The gift was confirmed by Ralph, Bishop of Chichester, in 1121,⁹⁵ and by Ralph, Archbishop of

⁹⁰ For an account of the work done at this time, see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 67.

⁹¹ This was considered by Mr. P. M.

Johnston, F.S.A., to be a 'low-side window': *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlii, 162.

⁹² *Ibid.* xvi, 222. ⁹³ *Ibid.* liv, 234-5.

⁹⁴ *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii), 21, 11.

⁹⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 193.

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Canterbury, in the same year.⁹⁶ In the time of Seffrid II (1180–1204) the church was appropriated to the convent, and provision for a vicar was made of a virgate of land and tithes of the parish church and the chapel of Balsdean and all small tithes.⁹⁷ The vicar's pension in 1538 was 26s. 8d., while the farm of the rectory was worth £8.⁹⁸ The rectory and advowson were resigned by Robert, the last Prior of Lewes, to the king in 1537,⁹⁹ and were both granted in 1538 to Thomas Cromwell.¹ After his forfeiture they were granted in 1541 to Anne of Cleves.² Queen Mary granted the advowson to the Bishop of Chichester in 1558, but on the accession of Elizabeth it was resumed by the Crown,³ and both the advowson and rectory were granted to Robert Freke of the Inner Temple in December 1559.⁴ The rectory was then in the tenure of Hugh Okenden, who had been holding it under the prior and convent in 1535.⁵ Freke sold to Sir Richard Sackville,⁶ and the advowson remained with his family⁷ until about 1835, when the patron was the Earl of Thanet.⁸ Shortly after this date it was acquired by the Earl of Abergavenny.

The rectory was sold or leased by Richard, Earl of Dorset, in 1616 to Lord William Howard, Sir George

Rivers, and others,⁹ who were apparently acting as trustees for Sir Edward Morley, for he died seised of the rectory of Rottingdean in 1620.¹⁰ His son John Morley in 1638 sold the rectory to Robert Baker, then vicar of Rottingdean, and to his successors.¹¹ This sale included tithes from 18 acres of ground called Barndens in Telscombe and in 1696 Isaac Woodruffe, then vicar of Rottingdean, proved his title to these tithes.¹² It is possible that the so-called rectory conveyed to the vicar in 1638 did not comprise all the rectorial tithes, for in 1849 the vicarage was endowed with a portion only of the rectorial tithes,¹³ and after 1638 the Earls of Dorset were including the rectory in settlements of their estates.¹⁴

The chapel of Balsdean was granted by William de Warenne the second to the Prior and Convent of Lewes.¹⁵ In 1577 the chapel of Balsdean and 2 acres of land in Rottingdean in the tenure of John Dumrell and Thomas Freake were granted to Peter and Edward Grey, in consideration of the good service of their father Peter Grey.¹⁶ The chapel is mentioned in a conveyance of the manor of Balsdean in 1699,¹⁷ but before 1870 it had been desecrated and was used as a stable.¹⁸

STANMER¹

Stanmere (viii cent. onwards); Stammer (xvii cent.).

Stanmer is a Downland parish lying on the southern slopes of the main range, below Ditchling Beacon. The parish stretches from south-west to north-east for about 2½ miles. Its shape is approximately a rhombus, its greatest width being about 1½ miles. The total area is 1,583 acres. The highest part of the parish is at the north-east end, known as Stanmer Down, rather over 500 ft. in height. This is all Downland sheep-pasture, and is separated by a belt of woodland from the part containing the village of Stanmer and its park, part of which is arable land. South-west of the park is Stanmer Great Wood. Stanmer Down is covered with old field-systems of the Early Iron Age and Romano-British periods.²

The present village is situated at the mouth of a coombe with two heads, each of which has a track passing up it, the eastern of which crosses the Downs in the direction of Patcham, and the northern climbs up to Plumpton Plain. These two lanes meet at the centre of the village, where there is a small lake, the parish church, and Stanmer Place. The north-bound road is the main street of the village, containing most of the dozen or so cottages which house the population of the parish, which, in 1931, was 93. The only means of access to the village at present is by a drive cut through the park from the Brighton–Lewes road. On the opposite side of this from the church is a large barn. Adjoining the church is the village well, covered by a modern Gothic stone well-house containing an old 'donkey-wheel' for raising the water.

Stanmer Place³ adjoins the church on its south-west side. It was built about 1724, presumably on the site of the original manor house, of which, however, no traces remain. It is a large stone-built house, the seat of the Earls of Chichester. The north-east front contains the main entrance, covered by a small porch, and giving access to a large 'front hall' or *salon*, which occupies the central portion of the ground floor on this front. To the left of this, as one enters, is a small drawing-room, and at the opposite end is the library. Behind the south-east front is the principal drawing-room and the dining-room, the service end of which is cut off by a colonnade of two pairs of lofty Corinthian columns. Access to this from the kitchen wing, at the opposite side of the house, is by a low passage enclosing a small courtyard. The kitchen wing is not faced in ashlar, as are the two main fronts. The main staircase is at the back of the *salon*, in a staircase hall joining the two wings, which are furthermore connected at their opposite ends by a lofty colonnade above the service passage. The kitchen wing adjoins a somewhat older building in which was once the brew-house. The house contains a good collection of portraits. West of the house are the gardens, in which are the remains of an orangery. A large stable-yard extends from the kitchen wing to the lane beyond. In the east angle of the yard is the well, covered by an old timber well-house which was repaired and embellished when the present house was built. The well-rope passes over a roller and is wound round a vertical capstan fixed, at either end, to the floor and to the roof timbers. On this vertical axle a small wooden wheel is

⁹⁶ *Anct. Chart.* (Pipe R. Soc. x), 11.

⁹⁷ *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 252–3; Add. MS. 6351, fol. 47.

⁹⁸ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 26.

⁹⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 426–7.

¹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384 (74).

² *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 329; xxxvi, 48.

⁴ *Pat.* 2 Eliz. pt. viii.

⁵ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 26.

⁶ Add. MS. 39447, fol. 5v.

⁷ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁸ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 187.

⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 323.

¹⁰ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 165.

¹¹ *Pat.* 13 Chas. I, pt. xxii.

¹² Add. MS. 5698, fol. 139.

¹³ Lewis, *Top. Dict.*; cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* x, 23 note.

¹⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 272;

Recov. R. Trin. 7 Anne, ro. 220.

¹⁵ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii),

21. Cf. *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 253.

¹⁶ *Pat.* 19 Eliz. pt. vii, m. 29.

¹⁷ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 31.

¹⁸ Lower, *History of Sussex*, ii, 128–9.

¹ Stanmer, having been from very early times a prebendal estate of the College of South Malling, was and still is a detached portion of Ringmer Hundred in the Rape of Pevensey.

² See paper by G. A. Holleyman in *Antiquity*, ix, map opposite p. 448.

³ See *Suss. County Mag.* iv, 349–56; *Country Life*, lxxi, 14, 66.

attached, and projecting across this is a long arm, having at either end a yoke for a draught animal. The whole apparatus is possibly of the 17th century.

Among the farm-buildings on the opposite side of the lane north of the stables is a rectangular pigeon-house of late date, with accommodation for about 450 nests.⁴

Land at Stanmer was given in about 765 *MANOR* by Alduulf, King of the South Saxons, to

Earl Hunlabe for the purpose of endowing a monastery, probably that of South Malling.⁵ In 1086 'Stanmere', then in Falmer Hundred, was held by the Archbishop of Canterbury and of him by the canons of South Malling. It was assessed for 20 hides and to it belonged 7 haws in Lewes, yielding 21 pence yearly.⁶ This land continued in the possession of the college until it was surrendered with the rest of the site and possessions of the canons to Henry VIII, who in 1545 granted these to Sir Thomas Palmer for services and for 1,000 marks paid to the king's own hands.⁷ Sir Thomas made an exchange of the manor of *STANMER* with King Edward VI⁸ and Queen Elizabeth in 1588 granted it to Richard Branthwaite of London and Richard Bromley of Bagworth Park, co. Leicester.⁹ In the following year they reconveyed it to the queen.¹⁰ In 1594 the manor was conveyed by George Michelborne to Richard Amherst.¹¹ In February 1614 King James I granted an annual rent from the manor, of £18 8s. 8d., to Queen Anne for life,¹² but in February 1615 he granted the manor, here named *STANMER alias AUDEWICK*, to George Lowe and Edward Sawyer of London, at a rent of £18 8s. 8d.,¹³ and they on 10 May following sold it to John Michelborne of London.¹⁴ Sir Richard Michelborne of Broadhurst is said to have sold the manor to trustees for the five orphan children of Anthony Walters, a merchant of London, in February 1625, but in July 1631, prior to the marriage of his son William and Anne, only daughter of Laurence Ashburnham, Sir Richard settled the manor on them and their heirs.¹⁵ Sir Richard died in 1638; his wife Cordelia survived him and his heir was his son William.¹⁶ William Michelborne by his will, dated 19 December 1656 and proved in January 1657, left it to his brother-in-law Denny Ashburnham and his son Edward Michelborne, after the death of his wife, to be sold.¹⁷ In 1670 Edward Michelborne and Anne Michelborne, widow, mortgaged Stanmer to Thomas Shelley,¹⁸ but in 1700, after the death of Edward Michelborne,¹⁹ his sisters and heirs, Sybil, wife of John Martin, and Bridget Michelborne sold the manor, described as *STAMMER alias STANMER alias AUDWYKE*, to Peter Gott of Hatton Gardens²⁰ for £8,000.²¹ Peter Gott, Receiver-General of Sussex, shot himself.²² His eldest son Samuel, together with Robert Western and Anne Western, widow, sold the

manor to Henry Pelham of Lewes for £7,500 in May 1713.²³ Thomas Pelham built a new house there, partly with the materials of Kennards, the old family seat of the Chaloners in the parish of Lindfield Arches.²⁴ The manor has descended in the Pelham family, afterwards Earls of Chichester,²⁵ to the present day.

In 1835 the manor was coextensive with the parish.²⁶ In 1608 there was also a copyhold of 86 acres called Robertsham in Ringmer, held by Thomas Parker.²⁷

The parish church,

CHURCH of which the invocation is unknown, stands to the east of the village street and north-east of Stanmer Place. At the beginning of the last century, the church consisted of a 14th-century nave and chancel and a west tower.²⁸ The structure was, however, entirely rebuilt in 1838, in flint with stone dressings, and consisting of a nave with two transepts projecting from the side walls, a chancel, and a west tower with spire. Part of the north transept is used as a vestry. On the north wall of the nave is a memorial to Sir John Pelham, died 1580, and his son Oliver, died 1584. Sir John's wife kneels opposite him. This memorial was removed from Holy Trinity, Minorities, London. On the north wall is also an inscription on brass to 'Deborah wife of Stephen Goffe, Preacher of Gods Word', died 1626.

There are two bells, dated 1791.²⁹

The plate consists of a silver chalice presented by the Earl of Chichester in 1817; two patens, of 1759 and 1762 respectively, presented at the same time; and a silver flagon presented in 1884. In 1888 the church also possessed a fine silver gilt 'steeple' cup, of secular origin, of 1623, but it was afterwards sold.³⁰

The registers begin in 1588.

The living of Stanmer is a rectory, *ADVOWSON* united since 1835 with that of Falmer (q.v.). While it was a possession of the College of South Malling the archbishop, as nominal head of the collegiate church,³¹ collated to the benefice.³² In 1232 the church of Stanmer was attached to the prebend of the penitentiary of South Malling.³³ Subsequently, and down to 1450 at least, it was held by the precentor, but in 1481 it was again annexed to the penitentiary, with which it remained until the Dissolution.³⁴ The value of the rectory in 1291 was £10 13s. 4d.,³⁵ in 1341 £11 11s. or 17s. 8d. more than the amount of the taxation,³⁶ and by the time of the Dissolution the value was assessed at £16.³⁷ In 1545 the rectory was granted to Sir Thomas Palmer with the



PELHAM. Azure three pelicans argent, quartering Gules two buckles with their straps argent.

⁴ Brighton and Hove Archaeologist, iii, 141.

⁵ Birch, *Cart. Sax.* i, 197; *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 117.

⁶ Ibid. i, 388b.

⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxi, 172-3; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xx (1), g, 1335 (31); *Suss. Arch. Trust*, Cal. Deeds A., Lewes, nos. 12, 13. Cf. P.R.O. Court Rolls, Gen. Ser. ccvi, 33 (14-19 Hen. VIII).

⁸ Add. MS. 39502, fol. 287.

⁹ Ibid.; *Pat. R.* 30 Eliz. pt. xvi.

¹⁰ Add. MS. 39502, fol. 287.

¹¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 414.

¹² Add. MS. 39502, fol. 288.

¹³ *Pat. R.* 12 Jas. I, pt. xi; Add. MS. 39502, fol. 287.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), dcclxiii, 13.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Add. MS. 39502, fol. 289; *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 264.

¹⁸ Add. MS. 5684, fols. 118-20; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 414.

¹⁹ *Comber*, loc. cit.

²⁰ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 414; Add. MS. 39502, fol. 189.

²¹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 184.

²² Add. MS. 5684, fol. 121.

²³ Ibid. 39502, fol. 289. According to Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 184, and *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liii, 279, Thomas Pelham was the buyer.

²⁴ Horsfield, loc. cit.

²⁵ Ibid.; *Recov. R. Hil.* 24 Geo. II, ro. 149; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 411;

Recov. R. Mich. 9 Geo. iv, ro. 299.

²⁶ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 184.

²⁷ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 117.

²⁸ See illustration in the Sharpe Collection of views of Sussex churches.

²⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 224.

³⁰ Ibid. liv, 227. See also *ibid.* liii, 219. *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 118.

³¹ Cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxvi, 84-6.

³² *Pat. Rolls*, 1225-32, p. 492.

³³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxvi, 86.

³⁴ *Tax. Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), 138.

³⁵ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 375; cf. *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxvi, 85-6.

³⁶ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 337.

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rest of the possessions of the college,³⁸ but presumably it was restored to the archbishop in 1552 with other property that had been held by the canons of the archbishop.³⁹ He collated in 1553,⁴⁰ and continued to hold the patronage⁴¹ until the union with Falmer in 1835, after which time he continued for some years to pre-

sent alternately with the Earl of Chichester, the patron of Falmer (q.v.). By an Order in Council, dated 20 November 1894, the archbishop exchanged his alternate right of presentation for the vicarage of Hellingly, so that the present sole patron of Stanmer *cum* Falmer is the Earl of Chichester.⁴²

³⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxi, 172; *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xx (1), g. 1335 (31); cf. *Pat. R.* 30 Eliz. pt. xvi.

³⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxi, 173-4; *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 118.

⁴⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxvi, 87.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* 87-90; *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁴² *Ex inf.* Messrs. Blaker, Son & Young.



STANMER: THE OLD CHURCH, c. 1780
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



WEST BLATCHINGTON: RUINS OF THE OLD CHURCH, 1782
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)

THE HUNDRED OF WHALESBONE

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF
WEST BLATCHINGTON BRIGHTON

THERE was no hundred of Whalesbone¹ in 1086. Brighton was then included in 'Welesmere' Hundred, and West Blatchington nowhere appeared under that name.² By 1296 the hundred of Whalesbone had been formed and it was divided for taxation purposes into Patcham and Withdean, Blatchington and Brighton, Hove, Brighton and Moulsecombe, 'Bokkyng'.³ For similar purposes in 1327 and 1332 the divisions used were Patcham and Blatchington, Preston with Hove, Brighton.⁴ By the end of the 16th century the boundaries of the hundred had been considerably reduced and the only 'boroughs' were Brighton and Patcham.⁵ Brighton then paid in common fine 6s. 8d. every half-year, collected at the rate of 1d. a head a year from every householder and every bachelor 'being his own man', except 'the Twelve' of the town who are exempted 'in regard they do seruice otherwise to the kinge'.⁶ The common fine of Patcham was levied once a year from specified lands in Patcham and Withdean.⁷ Two headboroughs were chosen annually in the 'town' of Brighton, by election, and one in Patcham 'borough', who 'serueth by landes'.⁸ The constable of Brighton was always chosen from the Twelve of the town, two years from the fishermen, and the third year among the landmen.⁹

The composition of the hundred was still the same in 1621,¹⁰ but by 1624 Blatchington had been included.¹¹ Subsequently Patcham was removed, to form the hundred of Dean (q.v.), and from at least 1801 the hundred of Whalesbone has been made up of the two parishes of Brighton and West Blatchington.¹²

The hundred descended with the rape.

¹ Walesbon (xiii cent.); Whalesbon, Walsbon (xiv cent.); Whalesbone (xiv-xx cent.). The derivation identifying the final element in this name as *burna* [*Pl.-N. of Suss.* ii. 290] has been corrected in *Pl.-N. Soc.* xv, p. xxxix, where it is suggested that 'the site of the Hundred meeting-place was marked by an arch of the bones of the lower jaw of a whale'.

² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 437-8.

⁴ *Ibid.* 172-3, 286.

⁶ *Ibid.* 143.

¹⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 78.

¹² *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 225; cf. Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 103.

³ *Subsidies* (Suss. Rec. Soc. x), 41-3.

⁵ *Book of John Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 143-4.

⁸ *Ibid.* 144.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 103.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

WEST BLATCHINGTON

Blechinton (xiii cent.); Blachyngton (xv cent.); Blechington (xvi cent.).

This one-time lonely Downland parish lies immediately north-west of Hove, the building development from which is rapidly swallowing up its fields. The area of the parish was 873 acres, but in 1928 about 130 acres were transferred to Brighton and the remainder to the borough of Hove.

The parish extends northwards to include a deep coombe known as Toad's Hole, beyond which it climbs the Downs to a height of over 500 ft. Southwards, the parish slopes towards the sea, from which it is separated by Aldrington. The whole area was farmland until a year or two ago, but the southern portion has now been developed as far as the old village, through an arterial road which has been driven from Portslade to join up with another passing along Toad's Hole and climbs the Downs on its way from Hove to the Dyke. The northern part of the parish is covered with ancient fields, and finds of Roman pottery have been made on the summit of the low hill which marks its extreme northern limits.¹

Most of the ancient villages in the district have been founded along old trackways passing down the spurs which run southwards from the main range of the Downs. West Blatchington was founded on the lower slopes of such a spur, descending from Round Hill and the Dyke Hill, along which there appears to have been a way leaving the old track from Saddlescombe to Portslade at the point where the vanished village of Hangleton once stood, and sweeping thence eastwards towards Preston. A Roman villa was discovered in 1818 a quarter of a mile north-west of the church, just where the old way enters the parish.² The church and manor-house stand at a point where this route is intersected by another passing between Portslade and Patcham, but the former seems to have been the main street of the tiny village, as a few old cottages, one of which is partly stone-built and may be of medieval origin, line its south-west side.

Behind these is the manor-house, now known as Court Farm, surrounded by extensive farm buildings, including an old windmill, erected in 1833.³ Although in present appearance quite modern, the house is built round a core which is apparently of the late 15th century. The remains of this are best seen on the north-west side of the house, where is a large angle buttress, with two set-offs and a moulded plinth, partly covered with modern cement plaster. The medieval wall continues along the north-east side of the house, with the remains of two more large buttresses. Inside there is little to be seen, but the medieval portion can be traced, of a stone-built structure of two bays with an entrance doorway at the east end of the south-west wall. The original outer arch of this has been hacked away, but the inner three-centred arch with its simple chamfer

is plainly visible. This part of the house is in two stories, the first floor being supported by large coarsely chamfered beams with stopped ends. At the west end of the south-east wall, on the upper floor, are the remains of a similar arch to another doorway, or possibly window. The modern wing which covers the south-east end of the medieval building clearly replaces one or more destroyed bays of this, and the appearance of the external walls and buttresses suggests that the building was originally higher. No old windows are visible to-day, but a window with a foliated head is said to have existed until quite recently.⁴

West Blatchington is not mentioned in *MANOR* the Domesday Survey, and it may have been part of the land at Patcham (q.v.) held by Richard and his knight, for Richard gave a hide of land at Blatchington to the monks of Lewes.⁵ The overlordship of what was variously described as $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ knight's fee in Blatchington descended with the rape,⁶ being shared by the three heirs in 1439.⁷ From 1502 the manor appears to have been held directly of the Crown and no longer of the barony of Lewes.⁸

The manor of *WEST BLATCHINGTON* was called *BLATCHINGTON-WAYFIELD* from a family, members of which are found witnessing charters by the Earls Warenne from about 1215.⁹ Richard de Wiaull was the earl's steward in about 1230,¹⁰ and in 1242-3 Richard de Wyavill held one-third of a knight's fee in Blatchington.¹¹ Earl Warenne himself was said to be holding Blatchington in 1284-5,¹² but in 1412 the manor was held by Richard Weyville.¹³

As at Catsfield (q.v.),¹⁴ the Weyvilles seem to have been succeeded by the family of Hardresse, or Hardres, and about 1485 the manor was conveyed to Thomas Combe, who sued James Hardres for detaining the title-deeds.¹⁵ Thomas Combe was dead before 1501, when his son Thomas sued his trustees, stating that the manor had been settled upon him and his brothers John and Edward. The trustees were ordered by the court to make a conveyance of the manor to Thomas and his brothers in tail male successively, with remainder to the right heirs of John de Combe, late of Combe in the parish of Hastings.¹⁶ In 1502 Thomas Combe and his wife Elizabeth conveyed the manor to certain persons, including Richard Emson and Edmund Dudley, probably feoffees to the use of the king, and Sir John Fyneux, chief justice of King's Bench, made a similar conveyance.¹⁷ Presumably as a result of these transactions the manor was subsequently held of the Crown as of the manor of Falmer (q.v.).¹⁸

The manor came into the hands of George, Lord Bergavenny, before 1535.¹⁹ In 1608 and 1617 Lord Bergavenny paid a rent of 21s. 4d. for this manor to the manor of Falmer.²⁰ In the later year it was said to consist of sundry decayed tenements. It remained in the family of the Lords Bergavenny, and in 1835 the

¹ See paper by G. A. Holleyman in *Antiquity*, ix, map opposite p. 448.

² *V.C.H. Sus.* iii, 50.

³ The mill thrashed and winnowed the corn, as well as grinding it: Horsfield, *Hist. of Sus.* i, 157. For a view of it see *Suss. County Mag.* iii, 711.

⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxi, 250.

⁵ *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.*), i, 13, 21.

⁶ *Bk. of Fees*, 691; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 18

Hen. VI, no. 28; *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 193.

⁷ *Ibid.* 187, 189, 190.

⁸ *Ibid.* 196 *infra*.

⁹ *Lewes Chart.* ii, 42, 49.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* ii, 27.

¹¹ *Bk. of Fees*, 691.

¹² *Feud. Aids*, v, 129.

¹³ *Ibid.* vi, 525.

¹⁴ *V.C.H. Sus.* ix, 241.

¹⁵ *Early Chan. Proc. bdle.* 58, no. 163.

¹⁶ *Ibid.* bdle. 238, no. 54.

¹⁷ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii), 3355, 3356; *Dict. Nat. Biog.* sub 'Fyneux'.

¹⁸ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 196; *P.R.O. Aug. Off. Misc. Bks.* 414, fol. 54; *T.R. Misc. Bks.* 157, fol. 178.

¹⁹ *Cf. Bk. of J. Rowe*, 150, 196; *Rowland, Hist. of Family of Nevill*, App. IX; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), ccxxiii, 58.

²⁰ *Aug. Off. Misc. Bks.* 414, fol. 54; *T.R. Misc. Bks.* 157, fol. 178.

manor consisted of one large farm.²¹ The present lord of the manor is the Marquess of Abergavenny.²²

A small freehold property in West Blatchington called Lewkenors Croft²³ probably originated in the land at Blatchington given by Richard the Archdeacon to the monks of Lewes,²⁴ and later part of the priors' manor of Falmer.²⁵ It appears to have been leased before the end of the 15th century to the Scrase family, and afterwards became their property.²⁶ Richard Scrase of Hangleton in 1500 left to his son Richard the manor of Blatchington and such store of corn, &c., and such stock as he would need 'to mayntene his housholdrye there'.²⁷ Presumably he



SCRASE. *Assure a dolphin argent with fins gules and tail or between three scallops or.*

had a lease of Blatchington Wayvill Manor, and on 4 November 1529 George, Lord Bergavenny, granted a lease of it for 57 years to the son, Richard Scrase,²⁸ who in 1534 was holding the prior's estate at Blatchington.²⁹ Richard died in 1549, and his widow Mary in 1552.³⁰ His son Edward also had a lease of the manor from Lord Bergavenny, but when he died in 1576, his son Richard being a minor, Edward Covert, the overseer of his will, by misrepresentations obtained in 1583 a new lease for three lives. Richard Scrase on attaining his majority recovered possession.³¹ He died in 1625,³² his son Tuppen Scrase in 1633, and his grandson Richard in 1634.³³ Tuppen had other sons but West Blatchington seems to have passed to his younger brother Henry Scrase, who died in 1641 leaving a widow, Joan, who continued to live there with her sons.³⁴ They suffered for their faith as Quakers and were repeatedly imprisoned.³⁵ Members of the Scrase family continued as tenants of Blatchington Manor, until the tenancy passed by marriage to the Hodsons, Mrs. Hodson, the tenant in 1830, being the granddaughter of a Scrase.³⁶ The family were still tenants as late as 1882.³⁷

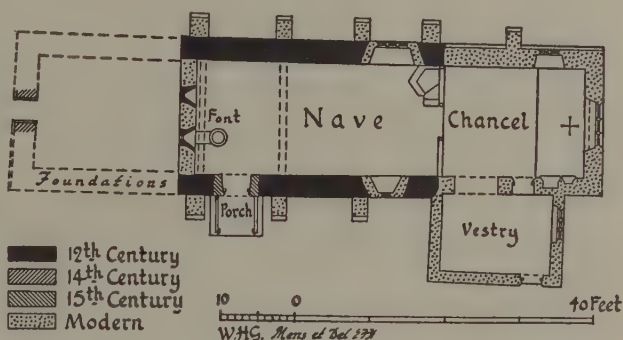
The church of *ST. PETER* stands *CHURCH* about a hundred yards to the north-west of the manor-house. It consists of a nave, chancel with a vestry to the south, a south porch, and a large square bell-turret with a squat spire over the west end of the nave. To the west of this may be seen the lower parts of the walling of a curious annexe to the nave.

The church consisted originally of a 12th-century nave and chancel. The western annexe appears to be contemporary with the nave itself. The chancel was rebuilt later in the medieval period, and provided with

a south chapel. In 1596 the church had been practically disused for fifty years and was regarded as a chapel to the manor-house, the only dwelling-house in the parish, for whose benefit occasional services were held.³⁸ By 1700 there were no doors or windows, bell or other furniture.³⁹ Soon after this, the church seems to have fallen entirely to ruin,⁴⁰ remaining so until 1890, when it was rebuilt.

The nave with its annexe appears to be of 12th-century date. Of the nave proper only the south wall and the lower part of the north wall appear to be ancient, and are of flint with stone dressings. The quoins of the west wall, with the walling adjoining them, are probably of the 12th century, and the wall contains two round-headed 12th-century windows with deep internal splays. The south doorway of the nave is 15th-century and four-centred without spandrels or hood-mould. East of this is a modern single-light

PARISH CHURCH of ST. PETER WEST BLATCHINGTON



window inserted in 1890 in place of the original 12th-century window.⁴¹

The chancel, vestry, and porch are modern and of brick with flint facing.

There are no other old features within the church, but built into the interior face of the north wall, opposite the south door, are a number of architectural fragments, including portions of a 12th-century arch showing roll-and-billet mouldings,⁴² portions of tracery, and what appears to be part of a medieval grave slab.

The remains of the western annexe are featureless except for the lower part of its west doorway, which appears to have been of the 14th century.

During the period when the church was derelict, a brass plate commemorating one Richard Scrase of Hangleton, another of Blatchington, and Edward Scrase of Blatchington, who died in 1499, 1519, and 1579 respectively, was found in the ruins and taken to Portslade Church, where it may be seen fixed to the east wall of the south aisle.^{42a}

²¹ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 157. Certain conveyances of the manor in the 16th century (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix, 48; xx, 367) were probably leases or mortgages.

²² Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

²³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlix, 162.

²⁴ *Lewes Chart.* i, 13, 21; *Anct. Charters* (Pipe Roll Soc. x), 11.

²⁵ Min. Accts. Hen. VIII, no. 3504.

²⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlix, 162.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, quoting P.C.C. 1 Moone; Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 237.

²⁸ *Ibid.*; Chan. Proc. Eliz. A. a. 8, 46.

²⁹ Min. Accts. Hen. VIII, no. 3504; Comber, loc. cit.

³⁰ *Ibid.*

³¹ Chan. Proc. Eliz. A. a. 8, 46.

³² *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlix, 164.

³³ Comber, op. cit. 238.

³⁴ *Ibid.* 241; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlix, 165–

7; viii, 16.

³⁵ *Ibid.* xxxiv, 174; xvi, 89; Besse, *Sufferings of People Called Quakers*, i, 713, 715–17.

³⁶ Rowland, *Hist. of Family of Nevill*,

p. 165.

³⁷ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1882).

³⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlix, 163.

³⁹ *Ibid.* 168.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* viii, 4, 13, where views of the interior and exterior are given.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* lxxi, 246.

⁴² *Ibid.* These stones were found in the ruins approximately between nave and chancel, and are therefore believed to be portions of the original chancel arch.

^{42a} See *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxix, 95.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

The church of West Blatchington *ADVOWSON* was given to the monks of Lewes by William de Warenne, the 2nd earl.⁴³ In 1252 and 1318 presentations made in error by successive Earls Warenne were revoked by them.⁴⁴ The priors of Lewes remained in possession of the advowson until the Dissolution,⁴⁵ when it was granted to Thomas Cromwell in 1538,⁴⁶ and on his attainder it reverted to the Crown. In 1557 the advowson was granted to John and Richard Kyme, who sold it in the same year to Edward Bellingham.⁴⁷ The living was joined for a short time to that of Hangleton (q.v.) by Archbishop Whitgift in June 1585.⁴⁸ In 1619 Sir Edward Bellingham sold the advowson of West Blatchington to Thomas Bishop and Robert Percehay⁴⁹

who presented in 1620 and 1625.⁵⁰ In 1627 Sir Edward Bishop sold it to Christopher Butler of Wimborough Green, clerk, and Thomas Carr of Oving, clerk,⁵¹ and in 1662 Carr sold to Sir John Stapeley,⁵² who presented in May 1664.⁵³ John Dunstall was patron in 1694,⁵⁴ and in 1707 he conveyed the advowson to Henry Pelham and others,⁵⁵ with the intention that it should be annexed to the vicarage of Brighton.⁵⁶ The union was effected by deed of 1 Aug. 1744. Presentation to the united benefice was to be in turn by the Bishop of Chichester and Henry Campion; but although the latter presented in 1804 all later presentations have been made by the Bishop.⁵⁷ The two livings are shortly to be disunited.⁵⁸

THE BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON

Bristelmestone (xi cent.); Brighthelmeston (xiv-xviii cent.).

The County Borough of *BRIGHTON* contains 10,503 acres and includes the ancient parishes of Brighton, Preston (part), Patcham, Ovingdean, and Rottingdean. The original parish of Brighton lay on the southern slopes of the Downs near the centre of the bay which stretches westward from Beachy Head to Selsey Bill. It was divided by the valley of the Wellesbourne, now occupied by the Steine and the Level. To the east of the valley the cliffs rise steeply from the sea; the soil is all chalk, but the under-cliff, which has been eroded by the sea, may have been an alluvial deposit.¹ The Downs behind the town rise to some 500 ft. above the sea-level and the main roads from London and Lewes crossed them to meet to the north. Many towns in England underwent a great transformation in the 18th century, but in some ways the process at Brighton was unique. The sea has always been the most important factor in the history of the town. It has been from the earliest times both its great enemy and also its chief means of subsistence. The fisheries absorbed the greater part of the population; arable farming was limited, and sheep-farming, though profitable, did not employ many men. In the early 18th century the town passed through a period of great depression, when by a curious stroke of fortune the sea brought back prosperity. In the first place this was due to the fashionable craze for sea-bathing as a cure for innumerable ills, but permanently it was the result of the changed attitude of English men and women towards the sea. A quotation from one of the earliest guide-books to Brighton, published in 1780, marks this change to the modern point of view:

'The salubrity of the air, the excellent quality of the water, the pleasing healthful and convenient situation of the town, its moderate distance from the metropolis, the un-

rivalled beauty of the circumjacent country, and many other advantages, both of nature and art contribute to give Brighthelmston a superiority to the other watering places. . . . On the place called the Clift there is a range of buildings commanding a fine prospect of the sea.'²

The last sentence marks the beginning of the change. Very few people, before this, enjoyed 'a fine prospect of the sea'. Mr. Haylor, writing about 1730, commended the town for 'its large Corn-Fields and fruitful Hills', which compensated him for the fact that 'it is bounded on the North-side [*sic*] with the British Channel'.³ Very few travellers can be found like the Rev. William Clarke, the vicar of Buxted, who stayed at Brighton with his family for the summer of 1736 and could sun himself on the beach and admire 'such a tract of sea'.⁴ Even in 1778, a visitor only mentions walking on the cliff to enable him to watch a great storm—'In deep contemplation on so tremendous a subject, am leaning on the edge of the clift',⁵ he writes, but otherwise he was only interested in the sea for the sake of the bathers and turned his attention to the visitors and their amusements.

The history of Brighton reaches back into a very dim past. Implements of the Stone and Bronze Ages, British coins, traces of a Roman settlement, and Anglo-Saxon remains have all been found,⁶ but any detailed knowledge of the inhabitants of Brighton only begins in 1086, with the survey of Domesday Book. It may be conjectured that at this time there was a fishing settlement at the mouth of the Wellesbourne and an agricultural settlement between the cliff and the church, which stands high above the town.⁷ The sea was continually encroaching on the coast, and it was reported in 1340 that 40 acres of arable land had disappeared in little less than 50 years.⁸ This probably refers to lands on the cliff⁹ rather than the foreshore. The regular planning of the town as it existed from at least the 15th

⁴³ *Lewes Chart.* i, 21; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 193; *Anct. Chart.* (Pipe R. Soc. x), 11; *Suss. N. & Q.* ii, 252-3.

⁴⁴ *Cat. Anct. D.* iii, A. 4182; *Lewes Chart.* i, 68.

⁴⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 426-7.

⁴⁶ *L. and P. Hen. VIII.* xiii (1), g. 384 (74).

⁴⁷ *Cal. Deeds A. Lewes* no. 18. Cf. *Comber, Suss. Gen. Lewes*, 10.

⁴⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxiv, 183. Apparently the union lasted only until 1590: *ibid.* xlix, 166; *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), cccxxviii, 56.

⁴⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 47.

⁵⁰ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁵¹ *Add. MS.* 39446, fol. 56.

⁵² *Ibid.*

⁵³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 185, note 27.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.* xlix, 167.

⁵⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 47.

⁵⁶ *Add. MS.* 39446, fol. 56; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 185, note 27.

⁵⁷ *Ex inf.* the Diocesan Registrar.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

¹ 'Lordengefeld below the cliff of Britelmeston' is mentioned in 1262: *Assize R.* 912, m. 42.

² *A Description of Brighthelmston and the Adjacent Country*, London (1780).

³ *Magna Britannia* (1730), v, 510.

⁴ Nichols, *Literary Anecdotes*, iv, 406.

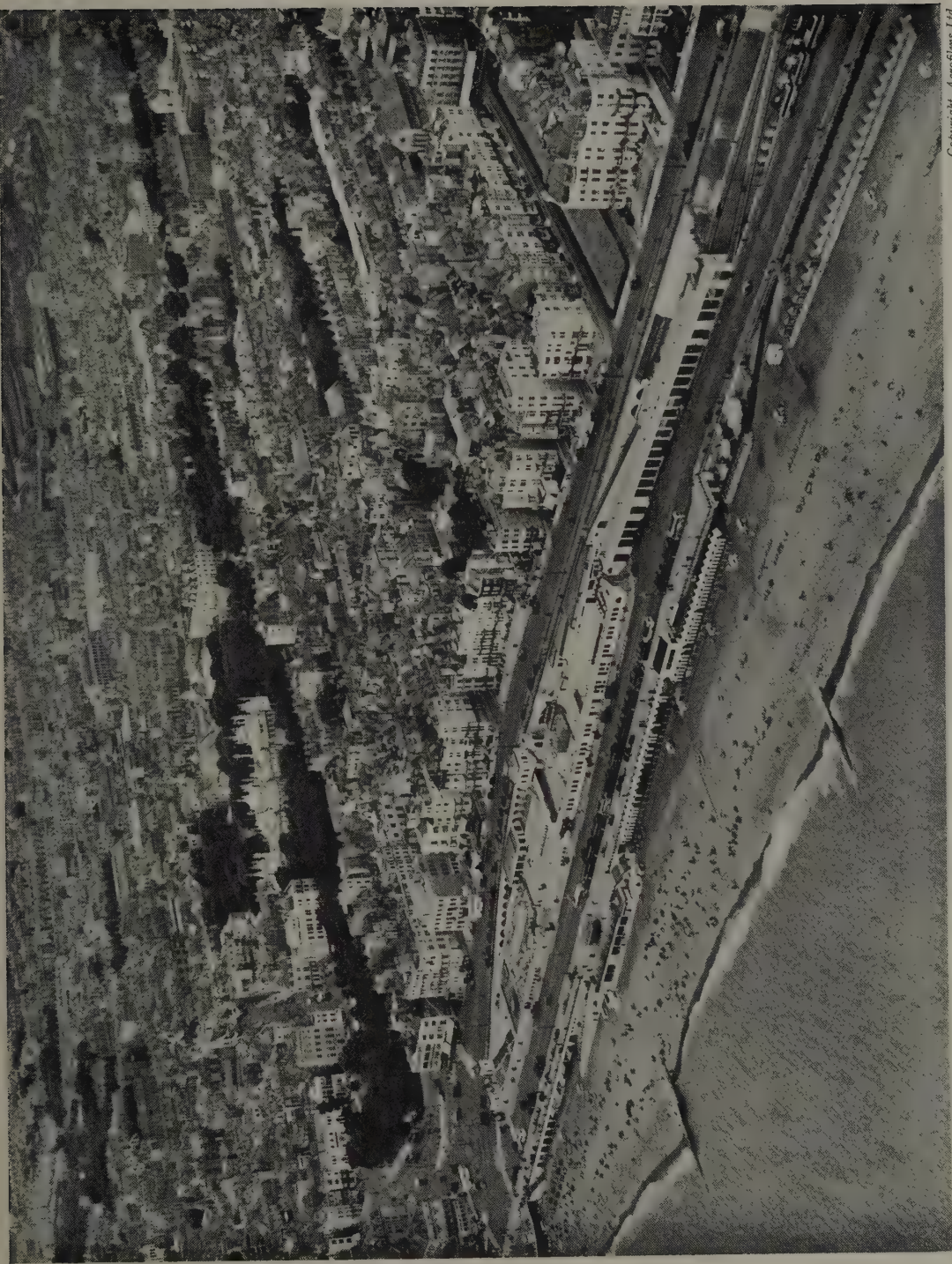
⁵ *A Sentimental Diary, Kept on an Excursion to Littlehampton . . . and to Brighthelmstone and Susssex*, 67.

⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 328, 337, 340; iii, 51-2.

⁷ The situation of the church may have been chosen as a landmark for sailors, or perhaps as being a site of pagan sanctity, there being a number of barrows, and possibly cromlechs there.

⁸ *Inquis. Nonarum* (Rec. Com.), 358.

⁹ This was certainly so at Rottingdean, where 50 acres had been lost: *ibid.*



BRIGHTON FROM THE AIR, 1938

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BRIGHTON FROM THE EAST CLIFF, 1785

century suggests that it was deliberately laid out anew, possibly under the influence of the town-planning of New Winchelsea,¹⁰ about 1300.¹¹ The earliest existing picture of Brighton, drawn in the early 16th century,¹² shows the site laid out as a rectangle about a quarter of a mile square, having streets to west and east with a street joining their northern ends and a south street passing along the edge of the cliff, on which was the market-place. The approach from the lower town was up a series of sloping ways rising eastwards. A Middle Street was laid out next to the West Street and parallel with it, and by the beginning of the 16th century these two streets, as well as North and East Streets, had been more or less completely developed. The interior of the rectangle between Middle and East Streets remained unbuilt upon for some time, and was known as the Hempshares, where hemp was grown for the rope-walks of the town. The drawing shows also a row of houses on the foreshore. These evidently increased in number with the growing prosperity of the town, but suffered from the depredations by the sea. In 1665 there were still 113, out of a former 135, shops, cottages, capstone-places, and stake-places under the cliff.¹³ Most of these were evidently mere hovels, as in the Hearth Tax of that year only 24 houses 'under the cliff' were returned, the total number of houses in the town being 267, of which 64 were in East Street and 61 in North Street.¹⁴ In 1703 a storm did damage all over the south of England, but at Brighton it 'stript a great many houses, turn'd up the lead off the church, overthrew two wind-mills, and laid them flat on the ground, the town in general (at the approach of daylight) looking as though it had been bombarded'.¹⁵ Another storm in 1705 demolished the lower town under the cliff and the wreckage of the houses was covered by the shingle.¹⁶ The fortifications on the west cliff were destroyed in 1748,¹⁷ and by 1760 the sea was undermining the cliff itself.¹⁸ The impoverished town, as was the usual method at the time, obtained help by briefs, issued by royal letters patent, for collections all over the country to raise the necessary money. The first was in 1722, for the construction of two groins, which were completed in the following year.¹⁹ Another brief, which was read in East Hoathly Church on 2 July 1757, was obtained to raise a further £2,250 for groins.²⁰ Concrete groins were erected in the 19th century and the protection of the cliffs by the building of sea-walls as far as Rottingdean, now included in the Borough of Brighton, has only been completed within the last two years. The west cliff has also disappeared, as one of the features of the town. It stretched westwards from the Steine about to West Street. In 1738 it still rose some 25 ft. above the shore,²¹ but this is obscured by the building of the parades and piers. Before the disappearance of the undercliff, there were

clefts leading from the town on the west cliff to the houses below, and these clefts evidently dictated the positions both of the streets running down to the shore and of the gates in the defence wall; a cleft still shows at the bottom of Middle Street in an engraving published in 1773.²²

Another important change is the disappearance of the Wellesbourne, a small and probably intermittent stream, which rose in the chalk-downs and flowed into the sea on the east side of the town, the Steine, lying in the valley between the town and the East Cliff, marking its course. Flooding in this area continued till the second half of the 19th century, but normally the stream ran into the sea by the Poole,²³ which is mentioned in 1497.²⁴ The outlet at the Poole was bricked over and the water inclosed in a sewer in 1793.²⁵

Fear of invasion was constantly present during the many wars with France. The most serious attack on the town was made in 1514, when the French Admiral Prigent de Bidoux, a knight of Rhodes, and known in England as Prior John, 'with his galeys and foystes, charged with Greate basylsyes and other great artillery came on the border of Sussex, and came a-land in the night at a poore village in Sussex, called bright Helms-ton, and, or the watch coulde him escrye, he sett fyre on the towne and toke such poore goodes as he founde'. By that time, however, the beacons on the Downs were lighted and help came to the town. Prigent recalled his men to their boats, but they suffered heavily and he himself was wounded before reaching his galley.²⁶ The drawing of the attack shows the French galleys lying close in shore and the town in flames. Danger once more threatened the town in 1545, when soldiers are said to have landed from a French fleet at Brighton, but were driven off before much harm was done.²⁷ In 1694 Ebenezer Bradshaw described the danger threatening the town: 'Our pour town of Brighthelmstone in Sussex hath been this day suddenly surprised with four French privateers, and pestered there with ever since 11 o'clock a.m. As yet they have not done us much mischief, having discharged themselves so nigh us as to shoot over our town.' Two more privateers arrived and the inhabitants were called up 'to be on our defence this night, if so be that by appearances we may drive off this umbrage of ruin', for the defences of the town were in a parlous condition.²⁸ This, however, was quickly remedied by the dispatch of more efficient ordnance.²⁹

Beacons on the Downs were kept ready to give an alarm and on the cliff just to the east of the Steine was the 'Cage', an iron basket full of burning fuel swung aloft on a high post. It is clearly drawn in the view of 1514.³⁰ The earliest fortification was 'the Bulwark', called 'the werke' in 1497,³¹ at which date there was a sea-gate (*porta marina*),³² which suggests that a wall

¹⁰ *V.C.H. Suss.* ix, 63.

¹¹ It may be significant that in the subsidy of 1296 Brighton is entered in two divisions, one going with West Blatchington, the other with Moulscumb in Patcham; but in, and after, 1332 Brighton forms one whole: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 42, 43, 173.

¹² Cott. MS. Aug. I. i. 18; reproduced in *Archaeologia*, xxiv, 292; *Royal Hist. Soc. Proc.* (3rd Ser.), i, 21; *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 518.

¹³ Goodwyn's Rental of Brighthelmston Manor (in the possession of the Sussex Archaeological Society); J. G. Bishop,

A Peep into the Past: Brighton in 1744-61, 4, 5.

¹⁴ Lay Subs. 258, no. 18.

¹⁵ Daniel Defoe, *The Storm* (1704), 186.

¹⁶ J. G. Bishop, op. cit. 5.

¹⁷ Add. MS. 5684, fol. 47.

¹⁸ Grose, *Antiquities of England and Wales*, iii.

¹⁹ J. G. Bishop, op. cit. 7.

²⁰ Ibid. 10; *The Diary of Thomas Turner of East Hoathly* (ed. F. M. Turner), 40.

²¹ Grose, loc. cit.

²² Ibid.

²³ Edward A. Martin, *Suss. Geology*, 84.

²⁴ P.R.O. Mins. Accts. Hen. VII, no. 1474. The personal name 'atte Pole' occurs as early as 1296: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 43.

²⁵ E. A. Martin, loc. cit.

²⁶ *Hall's Chronicle* (1809), 568-9.

²⁷ Holinshed, *Chronicle*, iii, 819b: but see *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* (3rd Ser.), i, 26-31, where this landing is disputed.

²⁸ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1694-5, pp. 145-6.

²⁹ Ibid. 174.

³⁰ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 518.

³¹ P.R.O. Mins. Accts. Hen. VII, no. 1474.

³² Ibid.

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was already in existence, stretching along the west cliff; but neither the wall nor 'the werke' is shown in the view. The town's chief defence, the Block-house, was not built till 1559, when the lords of the manor granted to the inhabitants of the town a piece of land, measuring 30 ft. x 16 ft., on which to build a storehouse for arms.³³ Its site was on the cliff near the southern end of Middle Street. At the same time fortifications were erected, which in 1730 consisted of

'four strong gates³⁴ of free stone and arches, three of them very copious, being 12 or 13 ft. high, but the most notable of them was the East Gate to which [is] joyn'd a Wall 14 or 16 Foot high, extending about 400 foot to Westward. There is also another Wall 3 foot thick facing the Sea, and in it are many Port holes for Cannon. About 250 feet to the West end of the wall stands the Town hall (on the East of which is the Market House); it is a very strong Aedifice in the form of a circumference, built in stone, and 7 or 8 feet thick and about 18 foot high, and 50 in Diameter. The Hall is about 30 foot broad and under it is a Dungeon. It faces the Sea, and in its Walls are several arched rooms, where the Magazines are kept. Before it near the Sea is the Gun-Garden, capacious enough for 4 Cannon. This Hall stands in the Middle Front of the Town, and upon the Roof is a Turret, in which stands the Town Clock.'³⁵

In 1580 the Town-house stood on the eastern side of the Block-house and their proximity perhaps accounts for the confusion in the names of the two buildings in the account of 1730. At the earlier date the armament consisted of four great cannon, sent from the Tower of London, besides two belonging to the inhabitants and ten callivers, with the necessary ammunition.³⁶ After the under-cliff had been washed away, the sea undermined the foundations of the Block-house, part of which fell down in 1748.³⁷ Its ruins are shown in an engraving published in 1773, standing at the extreme edge of the cliff. The town wall had completely disappeared, and as early as 1726 it had been necessary to guard the edge of the cliff with a paling.³⁸

Brighton in the medieval period occasionally figures as a port and in 1301 and 1302 was ordered, with Shoreham and Portsmouth, to provide one ship for the king's expedition to Scotland.³⁹ In 1680 it was part of the port of Shoreham and its 'landing place' was the beach for 600 ft. between East and West Streets and from the shops (below the cliff) to the low-water mark;⁴⁰ and the Customs Officials in 1766 set up two pillars to mark the boundaries.⁴¹ A carrying trade of some importance occupied the Brighton seamen, cargoes of wine, coal, salt, and stones being mentioned. Smuggling, and indeed piracy, brought the inhabitants into continual conflict with the county officials, and the lord of the manor of Brighton and Lewes was, as early as 1268,⁴² suing them for seawrack, which was one of his privileges.

It was, however, from the fisheries that Brighton obtained a considerable degree of prosperity. The Brighton fishing fleet in the 16th and 17th centuries was one of the most important on the south coast. The

fishing trade was minutely organized. In 1497 each boat fishing off Brighton paid the lord of the manor 8d. by custom, while he also received another customary payment called 'Lordsnettle' from the boats which went on the Yarmouth Fare.⁴³ A century later the fishermen of Brighton drew up a statement as to the system of fishing.⁴⁴ The year was divided into fares: Tucknett Fare lasted from February to April, fishing for plaice; Shotnett Fare was for mackerel fishing from April to June; Skarborow Fare and Yarmouth Fare lasted from September to November and were the most lucrative, as the boats up to 40 tons took part in the cod and herring fishery on the east coast; Cok Fare, Flew Fare, Harbour Fare, and Drawnett Fare were all for local fishing, mostly with small boats. Exact regulations were drawn up as to the shares to be received by the men and the size of the nets used.⁴⁵ In 1626 the war with France inflicted great loss on the town and the fisherman petitioned Parliament for men of war to protect the coast. They said that about 60 boats were employed on the six fares and brought as much as £7,000 or £8,000 a year to the town. 'Now for the last three or four years since the time of Warr, by the force and Rage of our Enemies the Dunkerks and Frenchmenn of warr wee have been debarred of our former fishing voyages.' Fourteen of the best barques had been seized by the enemy and the fishing fleet dared not leave port.⁴⁶ Another petition was sent to the lords lieutenant of the county,⁴⁷ who were also lords of the manor of Brighton-Lewes. In 1630 a 'Dunkirker' of 160 tons, with 78 men and 10 pieces of ordnance, was chased on shore at Brighton and the townspeople petitioned to be allowed to keep the guns for the protection of their town.⁴⁸ During the Commonwealth, when the Parliamentary fleet was engaged with Royalist ships as well as French and Dutch ships of war, a regular system of convoying the south-coast fishing fleets to the North Foreland was arranged.⁴⁹ Of these fleets, the Brighton contingent seems to have been the largest. In July 1653, 50 Brighton boats were waiting for their convoy; in 1657 of the 90 fishing-boats convoyed in April, 30 came from Brighton; in 1658, 50 were convoyed by the *Hawk* and others were waiting to sail.⁵⁰ The Brighton fishermen firmly refused to sail without protection. Even so, their voyages must have been eventful. In 1650, the captain of their convoy fought a royalist ship, whose captain and 21 of his crew were landed in Brighton.⁵¹ Some years later the *Cat*, a pink convoying the Brighton fishing-boats, was herself taken after a stout resistance, but thereafter the fleet demanded the protection of two convoys.⁵² Still the fisheries went on and between the carrying trade for the Parliament and illicit work for the royalists, the Commonwealth⁵³ was a fairly prosperous time. There is little to show that the inhabitants took any great interest in the political struggle. The most famous episode connecting the town with the Civil War was the escape of Charles II after his disastrous defeat at Worcester in 1651. In the parish registers⁵⁴ Adam Cartwright, the town clerk,

³³ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 57.

³⁴ From east to west, they were known as the East, Portal, Middle, and West gates.

³⁵ *Magna Britannia*, v, 510.

³⁶ Add. MS. 5700, fol. 73 d.

³⁷ Grose, op. cit. iii.

³⁸ J. G. Bishop, op. cit. 7.

³⁹ *Cal. Close*, 1296-1302, pp. 483, 612.

⁴⁰ Exch. Sp. Com. no. 6501.

⁴¹ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 57.

⁴² *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 170.

⁴³ P.R.O. Mins. Accts. Hen. VII, no. 1474.

⁴⁴ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 265.

⁴⁵ Add. MS. 5700 (copy of 'The Book of the Auncient Custom heretofore used amonge the Fishermen of the Towne of Brighthelmston' . . .), printed in [Paul Dunvan], *History of Brighthelmston*, 1795.

⁴⁶ Harl. MS. 6838, fol. 212.

⁴⁷ S.P. Dom. Chas. I, xxxii (90).

⁴⁸ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1629-31, pp. 195-6.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.* 1653-4, pp. 62; 1654, pp. 206, 528.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.* 1658-9, p. 560.

⁵¹ *Ibid.* 1650, p. 146.

⁵² *Ibid.* 1655-6, p. 304.

⁵³ *Ibid.* 1656-7, p. 112; 1658-9, p. 421; 1659, p. 99; *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xlii (1), 111.

⁵⁴ *Brighton Parish Register, 1558-1701* (ed. H. D. Roberts), 140.



BRIGHTON: PLAN AND VIEW, 1779
(from a print in the British Museum)



BRIGHTON: THE STEINE AND ROYAL PAVILION, FROM THE NORTH, 1823



BRIGHTON: THE PROMENADE AND THE CHAIN PIER, 1825

afterwards entered a short note of the event: 'Oct. 1651. The 14th day of this moneth King Charles the Second went from our towne out of Mr. Smiths house and was taken abroad by Nic^s: Tetersoale [&] carreyed by him to Fraunce, etc. And returned [h]ome & landed at Dover againe the 29th of May 1660.' Colonel Gounter, a Sussex royalist landowner, with the help of Francis Mansel, a Chichester merchant, persuaded Captain Tattersall to take friends of his, who, he said, had to leave the country on account of a duel, to France for £50. One evening in October, Gounter and his servant arrived at the George Inn at Brighton, anxiously talking to the host, Anthony Smith, and listening for later arrivals.⁵⁵ Traditionally the 'George' has been identified with an inn in West Street which in the 18th century bore the sign of the King's Head. But in 1665 the George Inn was in Middle Street, and at that time a cottage on the west side of West Street bore the name of the 'Ould George'.⁵⁶ It seems much more probable that a house standing on the loneliest edge of the town was the appointed meeting-place rather than the George Inn, in the middle of the town, especially as the brig was lying to the west near Shoreham. However, at dusk, there entered the 'George', Wilmot dressed as a cavalier and his companion, tall and dark and young, dressed in grey with puritanically cropped hair. At the inn they were joined by Mansell and Tattersall. Both the innkeeper, who had been in Charles I's body-guard, and Tattersall, whose ship had been once taken by the royalists, recognized the king. Tattersall now hesitated about the passage, said that the wind was against them, that they must wait for the tide, and finally demanded that his ship should be insured for £200. At last, at 2 a.m., they rode from the inn and reached the brig, which lay aground in a creek near Shoreham. Wilmot and Charles went on board and waited for the tide. When the ship was afloat, she sailed to the west to divert suspicion and later changed her course for Normandy, where the King landed safely; and the soldiers who came searching for him in Brighton in the evening found he had escaped them once more.⁵⁷ Tattersall is found later as a very active constable of the town.⁵⁸ Both he and Mansell received pensions after the Restoration,⁵⁹ and Tattersall was appointed to the command of the frigate *Monk* in 1661,⁶⁰ and in 1672 his ketch, the *Happy Entrance*, was carrying powder and other stores for the Navy Commissioners.⁶¹

In 1665 there was a Free school, standing in the Hemphshires.⁶² This seems to be the earliest record of a school in Brighton. In 1722 Martha Lewes of Bermondsey released to Thomas Wood *alias* Din of Brighton her interest in a tenement in the Hemphshires, which was parcel of a messuage called the Schoolhouse and contained five low rooms with an entry, two chambers and a garrett, garden, and two parcels of

land.⁶³ Possibly this was the school which existed in 1702, when an 'Old School Book' begins and records the payment of £2 5s., the half-year's rent of the schoolroom.⁶⁴ It may possibly have continued as the school endowed by the Rev. Anthony Springett in 1740, when he gave a house and garden in the narrow lanes upon trust for a charity school.⁶⁵

With the beginning of the 18th century, Brighton entered on the most depressed period of its history. The damage suffered from the successive storms has already been described. No one of any great wealth lived there. The most important people in the town were probably the farmers of the manorial demesnes, some of whom, such as the Friends, were gradually gaining control of a large part of the parish.⁶⁶ The population in 1700 had sunk to between 1,400 and 1,500, less than half its computed numbers in 1580,⁶⁷ while in 1744, out of 454 houses, 336 were exempted from the rates owing to the poverty of the occupiers.⁶⁸ To the impoverished town, however, an unexpected prosperity was wrested from the sea, treated from a new angle. About 1747 Dr. Richard Russell came to Brighton to exploit his new theories as to the medical properties of sea-water. He was probably the son of Nathaniel Russell, who bought Ranscomb Manor in South Malling near Lewes, and obtained his doctorate in 1724 at the University of Leyden.⁶⁹ He does not seem to have held the licence of the London College of Physicians to practice in England,⁷⁰ but his Latin treatise, published in 1750 and translated into English in 1752, on the treatment of glands by means of sea-water was well known both in Europe and in England.⁷¹ Dr. Addington, the alienist whom the Prince of Wales called in to attend George III in 1788, was a warm admirer of Dr. Russell, in spite of his opposition to doctors not holding English degrees practising here.⁷² The advantages of sea-bathing had long been recommended in England, but Dr. Russell also prescribed the drinking of sea-water and more especially of Brighton sea-water. The chalybeate spring, known as St. Anne's Well, which rose in the Upwick estate just to the west of the parish boundary, was also recommended by him to his patients. To what extent local Sussex inhabitants had previously come to bathe at Brighton is doubtful. Probably Dr. William Clarke, who bathed each morning during the fine weather of his visit in 1737, but left the place as soon as the weather became stormy,⁷³ was a rare example. Dr. Russell benefited from his practice sufficiently to build himself a large house on the Steine.⁷⁴ Still the visitors had not by 1756 greatly enriched the town. That winter there was a corn famine arousing the fear of incendiarism by a crowd of poor starving country people. At the close of Dr. Russell's career, for he died in 1759,⁷⁵ Sir Edward Wilson, in a letter to a Yorkshire correspondent, could

⁵⁵ Col. Gounter of Racton, *The last Act in the Miraculous Story of His Majesty King Charles the Second's Escape* (2nd ed.); cf. *Pepys' Diary* (ed. 1904), i, 157-8.

⁵⁶ Goodwyn's Rental.

⁵⁷ Col. Gounter, op. cit.

⁵⁸ J. A. Erredge, *History of Brighthelmston* (1862), 17.

⁵⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvii, 92.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.* xxxii, 89.

⁶¹ *Pepys' Diary* (1904), vi, 188.

⁶² Goodwyn's Rental.

⁶³ Preston Manor Deeds, Indenture 13 April, 8 Geo. I.

⁶⁴ Frederick Harrison, *Story of Brighton, Hove, and Neighbourhood* (reprinted from

the *Brighton Gazette*, 1931), 87.

⁶⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 439 (these references to a school in Brighton are considerably earlier than the dates given in the article on Schools).

⁶⁶ Poor Rate Book, 1744-61, in J. G. Bishop, op. cit. 37.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.* 9.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* 17.

⁶⁹ T. W. Horsfield, *History and Antiquities of Lewes*, ii, 172; Richard Russell, *Dissertatio Medica inauguralis de Epilepsia Puerili* . . . , Leyden, 1724.

⁷⁰ Richard Russell, M.D., *A letter to Dr. Thomas Bigg, late Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital*, 1757; the author

of this letter was a namesake of the Brighton specialist and an M.D. of Rheims; *Dict. Nat. Biog.* appears to have confused the two Dr. Russells.

⁷¹ Richard Russell, *De Tabie Glandulari, sive de usu aquae marinae in morbis glandularum dissertatio* . . . ; the English translation ran through four editions.

⁷² Richard Russell, *A letter to Dr. Thomas Bigg*; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁷³ Nichols, *Literary Anecdotes*, iv, 407.

⁷⁴ T. W. Horsfield, *Hist. of Sussex*, ii, 133.

⁷⁵ *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1759, p. 606; M.I. at South Malling.

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say of Brighton that it was 'of late so much resorted to in this county for the sea-water, as Scarborough is in yours'.⁷⁶ Russell was succeeded first by Dr. Anthony Relhan and then by Dr. Awsiter, both of whom published books on Brighton.⁷⁷ Under their auspices, the town began its modern history as a watering-place. The chief townspeople quickly realized the necessity of improving its public amenities and its approaches. In 1770 two Acts of Parliament were obtained for repairing and widening the roads leading from Brighton to Lewes and other places in Sussex,⁷⁸ and trustees of the tolls to be collected were appointed.

The ancient trackway through the district, the 'Juggs' Road' coming over Newmarket Hill from Lewes, had been replaced in medieval times by a valley road through Falmer. Another old way over the Downs from Steyning had been diverted to run below the hills, over which it passed by way of Saddlescombe and thence along the spur to Brightelmston. This was the main road from London, and by it the coaches had to make their way until about 1800, when attempts were made to utilize the Roman terrace way over Clayton Hill and thence past Pyecombe Church and down the Wellesbourne valley. In 1810, however, the new London Road through Bolney was opened, and in that year the mail-coach service was started. The old route through Saddlescombe and Henfield, however, continued in use for more than half a century. In 1822 coastal communications were greatly improved by the completion of the Old Shoreham Road. The Western Esplanade was also constructed in that year, and the western development of the town proceeded apace, Brunswick Square being commenced in the following year.

The first visitors probably lodged in the old houses, such as Dr. William Clarke described, built partly below the street and ground level with low rooms, but it is unlikely that they continued to pay only 5s. a week for two parlours, two bedchambers, and a pantry.⁷⁹ In 1778 a visitor wrote that the 'townsmen look upon all strangers as lawful prize, a sort of god-sends, as the Cornish men call wrecks'.⁸⁰ New houses were erected, some built by the visitors, but more by the townspeople, as a speculation, and it was probably this building activity which led to the partition in 1762 of the hitherto undivided lands of the two moieties of the manor of Brighton-Lewes (q.v.). The parish consisted of the old town, the tenantry laines, and the eastern and western tenantry Downs. The five 'laines' were open fields of arable land, divided into furlongs separated by narrow roads called leakways. They contained, in 1738, 921 acres and were held by twenty-five persons, who had rights of pasture over the Downs. Gradually the laines were built over and the straight streets built to the north

of the old town follow the lines of the old rectangular strips.⁸¹ Between 1770 and 1795, 635 new houses were built,⁸² and by 1792, not only had many of the laines been used for building, but downland had been broken up by the owners.⁸³ The houses were built in new streets, including Bond Street, Church Street, King Street, Manchester Street, Charles Street, Broad Street, Russell Street, besides the houses on the Old and New Steine and Battery Place.⁸⁴ Finally in 1822, the freeholders of the laines divided and inclosed the common land of the Downs, receiving shares commensurate to their holdings in the laines. Thomas Read Kemp obtained 335 shares, Charles Scrase Dickens and his son 83½ shares jointly, John Wickels of Bristol 50½ shares, and Nathaniel Kemp of Ovingdean 41 shares. The only land left for the use of the inhabitants in common was the Old Steine, the Levels, and 105 acres, including the race-course and cricket ground.⁸⁵ The Old Steine had long been inclosed as a public promenade, and as early as 1665 there was a bowling-green there;⁸⁶ the Levels or North Inclosures were reserved for the use of the proprietors of houses in the neighbourhood. These inclosures led to much bitter feeling, as not only had the Sheep Downs entirely disappeared, but the fishermen could no longer use the Steine and Levels as a drying ground for their nets.

Throughout the 18th century, Brighton was recommended as a health-resort by physicians. Thus in 1777, Lord Hardwicke was sent by his physician for sea-bathing,⁸⁷ and nearly twenty years later Lord Elgin went there in bad health, intending 'to pass some time for the benefit of the warm sea-bathing',⁸⁸ though others may have shared the scepticism of John Horne Tooke: 'suppose a fish-physician were to order his patients ashore'.⁸⁹ The first warm sea-baths were established by Dr. Awsiter⁹⁰ and their number was afterwards increased. The curious theory that it was unwise to bathe in the sea, unless the bather's own temperature was equally low, still persisted and led to winter bathing. Fanny Burney cheerfully describes how at 6 a.m. on a November morning in 1782 she plunged into the ocean by 'the pale blink of the moon'.⁹¹

Two assembly rooms had been established by 1761, one at the Old Ship Inn and the other at the Castle Tavern.⁹² They were opened on alternate evenings for dancing and cards, and the visitors were under the care of a master of the ceremonies.⁹³ His office lasted until 1853, although the Castle had been absorbed by the Royal Pavilion many years before.⁹⁴ A theatre, replacing a barn hitherto used for plays, was built in North Street in 1774.⁹⁵ In 1780 it was managed by Mr. Fox from Covent Garden, but was badly attended and the acting seems to have been mediocre at the best.⁹⁶ In the mornings, the visitors walked on the Steine and

⁷⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xi, 46.

⁷⁷ Anthony Relhan, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Ireland), *A Short History of Brightelmston, with Remarks on its Air and an Analysis of its Waters, particularly of an uncommon Mineral one, long discovered, though but lately used* (1761); John Awsiter, *Thoughts on Brightelmston concerning Sea-Bathing and Drinking sea-water with some directions for their use, in a letter to a friend* (1768).

⁷⁸ *Private Acts of Parl.* 11 Geo. III, cap. 64, 95.

⁷⁹ Nichols, *Literary Anecdotes*, iv, 407.

⁸⁰ *A Sentimental Diary* (1778), 44. In 1796 a visitor described the vane on the church tower, in the shape of a fish, as a

shark, symbolical of the inhabitants: J. D. Parry, *Coast of Sussex*, 70.

⁸¹ F. E. Sawyer, *Land Tenure and division in Brighton and the Neighbourhood, 1881*; Brighton Terrier, 1738 (Brighton Public Library).

⁸² [Paul Dunvan], *History of Brightelmston* (1795), 553.

⁸³ Brighton Terrier, 1792 (Brighton Public Library).

⁸⁴ [Paul Dunvan], op. cit.

⁸⁵ *Borough of Brighton. Copies of Deeds, relating to the Division of the Tenantry lands in the Parish of Brightelmston, in the year 1822, &c.* (1878).

⁸⁶ Goodwyn's Rental.

⁸⁷ *MSS. of the Marquess of Lothian*

(Hist. MSS. Com.), 312.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*

⁸⁹ Samuel Rogers, *Recollections* (1859), 129.

⁹⁰ John Awsiter, op. cit.; *A Description of Brightelmston and the Adjacent Country* (1780), 27.

⁹¹ *Diary and Letters of Madame D'Arblay* (1904), ii, 128.

⁹² Anthony Relhan, op. cit. 15; *Madame D'Arblay*, i, 281.

⁹³ *Ibid.*

⁹⁴ W. H. Attwick, *Brighton since the Grant of the Charter, 1854-1929*, p. 10.

⁹⁵ E. W. Brayley *Topographical Sketches of Brightelmston and its Neighbourhood* (1825), p. 68.

⁹⁶ *A Description of Brightelmston* (1780), 6-7.



BRIGHTON: THE ROYAL PAVILION, 1785
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



BRIGHTON: THE ROYAL PAVILION AS RECONSTRUCTED IN 1817-20



BRIGHTON: THE STEINE AND ROYAL PAVILION, 1806

visited the libraries. Thomas was the fashionable book-seller in 1779, where visitors went to enter their names, and there was also Widget 'the milliner and library-woman'.⁹⁷ For the more active, there was hunting and horse-racing, while the militia camp, which a scare of war with France in 1784 had brought to the town, added to the gaiety of the visitors.⁹⁸ These attractions brought all sections of fashionable society, literary, political, and sporting, to Brighton. It brought the Thrales, who had family connexions with the town, for old Mr. Scrase, 'Daddy Crisp', who had bought a moiety of the manor of Brighton-Lewes (q.v.) and lived at the so-called Manor House on the Steine, had been a friend of Mr. Thrale's father.⁹⁹ They had a house in West Street, where Dr. Johnson and Fanny Burney came to stay. He went hunting and bathed and even went with them to the assembly rooms, but he was a difficult and cantankerous guest, who quarrelled with the lesser literary lights, such as Dr. Delap and Mr. Pepys, the London surgeon, who came for the bathing season. Fanny Burney amused herself with endless conversation at home, at the libraries, at the assembly rooms, where she avidly marked the general recognition of herself as the famous authoress. She bathed, walked on the Downs to see the hounds, and joked with the militia officers, who messed at the Old Ship. She was indeed the complete Brightonian visitor.¹

The first changes in this society were beginning during Fanny Burney's visits. In 1779 the Duke of Cumberland, George III's brother, took Dr. Russell's house and became a regular visitor to the town. In the summer of 1783 the young Prince of Wales came to visit him and enjoyed his visit so much that he came again the next year, and Brighton is now inevitably connected with his name and extravagances.

On his first visit, the Prince of Wales was greeted by a royal salute from the guns of the battery; he walked about the Steine with his uncle, went to the theatre, and was fêted by the town. He was young and handsome and endeared himself to the townspeople, with whom he remained unbrokenly popular throughout his life. The next year he came again and settled in a house which stood on the Steine and belonged to Thomas Kemp, M.P. for Lewes and the largest land-owner in Brighton. He sent his famous cook, Weltje, to make the arrangement and the lease stood in Weltje's name, until the prince bought the house in 1800. Many years afterwards, Samuel Rogers described it as 'a respectable farm-house'.² This summer the prince went to the Brighton races and entertained Philippe Egalité, then still known as the Duc de Chartres, as well as other French visitors staying at Brighton. Driving was one of the chief amusements of the time. Light carriages were becoming the fashion with the improved roads and the prince joined in the craze for horsemanship. His 'tutor' was young Sir John Lade, who made a curious link between the Pavilion and the literary visitors, for he was the nephew of Mr. Thrale. The following year, the prince brought the architect, Henry

Holland, to carry out necessary alterations to his house, which became known indifferently as the Marine Pavilion or the Royal Palace. In the meantime, he had secretly married Mrs. FitzHerbert and a house was taken for her close to the Pavilion. They became regular summer visitors to Brighton, where he escaped from the difficulties of political life in London. Politicians might come to Brighton; Pitt and Fox were both there at the same time in 1784; but the prince amused himself, abetting the fashion for practical jokes, in which Lord Barrymore and his two brothers later became the ringleaders. If the wild doings of the prince in their company or that of Sheridan and less famous companions, such as Lade and Major Hanger, have been over-emphasized,³ it must not be forgotten that Brighton continued to attract every one of importance whether from rank or personal attainments. A simpler family life also went on among the visitors.

Another element came into Brighton society with the outbreak of the French Revolution. The first emigrés came in the Brighton packet boats, bringing with them the money gained from the sale of their French estates; but gradually, during the time of the Terror, they came in all kinds of disguises, secretly in the fishing-boats, and penniless.⁴ The outbreak of war with the French Republic in 1793 renewed the scare of invasion and the camp at Brighton was one of the largest of those established for the defence of the south coast.⁵ The prince took part in many reviews, and the crack regiments encamped there were very different from the militia regiments described by Fanny Burney.

By 1794, the influence of Lady Jersey, and the financial crisis with which the Prince of Wales was faced, led to his marriage with Princess Caroline of Brunswick and in 1795 they came to spend the summer in Brighton, which was especially gay in their honour. He finally left the princess in 1799 and the next year he returned to Mrs. Fitzherbert, who always considered herself to be his legal wife by the law of her church, if not by the law of England. They returned to Brighton in 1801 and the prince began enlarging the Pavilion, although it was not till 1811, when he became Regent, that he embarked on the great building programme which turned the Royal Pavilion into one of the wonders of his time. Immediately, he bought the Promenade Grove, a popular pleasure garden, to the west of the house, but on the other side of East Street. Arrangements were made to inclose the street, on condition that he built a new road at his own expense. A new house was also built for Mrs. Fitzherbert in 1804, known as Steine House,⁶ and she lived there till her death in 1836. The entourage of the prince became more political and less gay, but the town continued to grow. The old parish church had become too small for the town. In 1810 Miss Berry went to see the church on the hill above the town, as she could still describe St. Nicholas: 'It is crowded with tablets within and tombstones without, in short the town and its inhabitants have fairly outgrown their church, for there is but one here.'⁷ She

⁹⁷ *Madame D'Arbly*, i, 226, 281.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.* 220.

⁹⁹ Mrs. Piozzi, *Autobiography*.

¹ *Madame D'Arbly*, i, 216-27, 280-8; ii, 102-17.

² O. Sitwell and M. Barton, *Brighton*, III.

³ The contemporary newspapers, diaries, and local histories are full of accounts of the prince at Brighton: the chief authorities are: *The Sussex Weekly Advertiser*; *The Brighton Herald*; *The Creevy Papers*

(1905); *Miss Berry's Journals and Correspondence, 1783-1852*; [Paul Dunvan], *History of Brightelmston*; E. W. Brayley, *Topographical Sketches of Brightelmston and its Neighbourhood*; T. W. Horsfield, *History and Antiquities of Lewes*; J. A. Erredge, *History of Brightelmstone*; W. H. Wilkins, *Mrs. Fitzherbert and George IV*; J. G. Bishop, *The Brighton Pavilion and its Royal Associations*; Frederick Harrison, *Historical and Literary Associations of*

Brighton and Hove; O. Sitwell and Margaret Barton, *Brighton*; H. D. Roberts, *The Royal Pavilion*; F. Harrison and J. S. North, *Old Brighton* (1937).

⁴ Parry, *Coast of Sussex*, 64-5.

⁵ Much about the Brighton Camp will be found in Parry's *Coast of Sussex*, 65-90.

⁶ It is now occupied by the Young Men's Christian Association.

⁷ *Miss Berry's Journal and Correspondence, 1783-1852* (2nd ed.), ii, 443.

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ignored the fact that the Chapel Royal, in North Street, was already built. The Prince of Wales laid the foundation stone in 1793, and attended it until 1821, when, being offended with a sermon preached there, which he considered, probably correctly, was directed against him,⁸ he bought the Castle Tavern on the Steine, which adjoined the Pavilion grounds, and converted it into a royal chapel. Miss Berry, on the same visit, drove to the West Cliff and noted that the town stretched from there to the Crescent, then the last buildings on the East Cliff, for quite 2 miles.⁹ Various improvements in the public buildings of the town were carried out by the Town Commissioners, whose numbers and income had been increased in 1800.

'You would scarcely know Brighton,' Mrs. Fitzherbert wrote in 1819, 'it is so enlarged since you were here, and is at this moment so full there is not a house to be had. I cannot boast of much good society, which formerly we abounded with at this season. When I tell you that fifty-two public coaches go from hence to London every day and bring people down for six shillings, you will not be surprised at the sort of company we have; besides which the Royal Palace attracts numbers who are puzzled to know what to make of the appearance of the building which it is impossible for me, or indeed any one else, to describe.'¹⁰

The Prince Regent had been absorbed in building the Pavilion in its final Indo-Chinese form, which puzzled and shocked the taste of his contemporaries,¹¹ but he was growing older, absorbed in politics, and the court at Brighton lost something of its brilliance. It was at Brighton that he finally consented to the engagement of his daughter Princess Charlotte, the heir to the throne, to Prince Leopold of Coburg, and the prince came in February 1816 to be presented to the regent. One of his suite described the event:

'Brighton is a beautiful town on the coast, quite new and much frequented by fashionable society for the sake of the sea-bathing. We were quartered in the Pavilion, as the Regent's residence is called; it is decorated and furnished in the Chinese taste, and is illuminated by more than three thousand lamps of opalescent glass, which indeed give a really magnificent effect, but also produce an almost unbearable heat; the gallery is of a quite unusual beauty. . . . At 6 o'clock we went into dinner which lasted until half past nine, which was something of a trial for the Prince as his head is not yet quite healed, however if one does not wish to starve one must accustom oneself to these long sittings, which are the rule over here. After dinner the Turkish band opened their concert with the Coburg march; they are very richly and tastefully dressed and play every day. The Lord Chamberlain's very beautiful daughter, Lady Charlotte Chaldamby [*sic*] in the intervals displayed her skill on the pianoforte, which is really first class. Then Whist and Vingt-et-un were played alternately until 1 o'clock.'¹²

This description sums up the chief features of life at the Pavilion as they appear in contemporary accounts, the heat of the rooms, the long dinners, music, and cards. The Pavilion was at last finished in 1820, but soon afterwards George suddenly lost interest in Brighton. William IV and Queen Adelaide came regularly to the Pavilion and entertained largely. Charles Greville in 1832 described the town as 'very full, bustling, gay, and amusing. I am staying in De Ros' house with

Alvanley; Chesterfield, Howes, Neveirs, Cowpers, all at Brighton, and plenty of occupation in visiting, gossiping, dawdling, riding, and dining; a very idle life, and impossible to do anything. The Court very active, vulgar, and hospitable. . . .'¹³ This is one of the last descriptions which suggests the Brighton in its most fashionable guise; Queen Victoria came there soon after her accession, but she and Prince Albert did not care for it. The town had become too big for any kind of privacy. Creevy at the time of her first visit had written 'Now for Brighton! Barry, my dear, it is *detestable*: the crowd of unknown human beings is not to be endured . . . but I have a strong touch of melancholy in comparing Brighton of the present with times gone by'.¹⁴ In 1850 the Pavilion was sold to the Brighton Town Commissioners and has been developed as a centre of municipal activities. The public library and museums have been built in the grounds; the stables, known now as the Dome, have become a concert hall and the Riding School is the Corn Exchange. During the Great War from December 1914 to early in 1916 a hospital for Indian soldiers was established there, and it was used as a military hospital till 1922. It was afterwards restored and opened to the public, with the addition of the south gate, given in 1921 by the Maharaja of Patiala.¹⁵

The growth of the town was inevitable; the increasing number of visitors had forced the Town Commissioners to undertake public works, the chief being the concrete sea-wall, the new Town Hall, the reclamation of the foreshore to enable the building of the Grand Junction Road joining the East and West Cliffs, and the making of the King's Road along the West Cliff. A further impetus to building came from Thomas Read Kemp, who in 1811 succeeded his father as lord of a moiety of the manor of Brighton-Lewes (q.v.) and owner of the rest of the property of the Friend family. He sat as a member for Lewes Borough from 1811 to 1816 and again from 1826 to 1837. In 1820 he began an ambitious scheme for developing the eastern part of the parish of Brighton, and the building of Kemp Town absorbed the greater part of his fortune. He also built for himself the large house at the west end of the town, known as the Temple. In 1822 the race-course was improved and a new grand stand built, and in the same year a company was formed by Act of Parliament to build the Chain Pier, from which a regular cross-channel service was maintained. The West Pier was built in 1866, and after the Chain Pier had been washed away by the great storm of 1896, the project for building the Palace Pier was carried out.¹⁶ The railway to Brighton was opened in 1841 and the stream of distinguished visitors to Brighton continued throughout the 19th century.¹⁷ A policy of catering for the tastes of other, less distinguished, visitors was adopted, and among other attractions the Aquarium,¹⁸ at the south end of the Steine, was opened in 1872 and rebuilt in 1929, when this portion of the sea front was remodelled. The immunity of the town from air-raids during the war years, 1914-18, followed by the improvement of the railway service to London, has led in recent years to a great expansion of building.

⁸ [Paul Dunvan], op. cit. 543; Sitwell and Barton, op. cit. 176; E. W. Brayley, op. cit. 28, 67.

⁹ Miss Berry, ii, 442.

¹⁰ Creevey's *Life and Times*, ed. John Gore, 1934, p. 115.

¹¹ Cf. Miss Berry, ii, 490.

¹² *Cornhill Mag.*, May 1937, 620-1.

¹³ Greville's *Diary* (1888), ii, 342-3.

¹⁴ Creevy Papers, 667.

¹⁵ H. D. Roberts, *The Royal Pavilion* (1932).

¹⁶ W. H. Attwick, op. cit. 33.

¹⁷ Frederick Harrison, op. cit.

¹⁸ A 'Zoological Gardens' had a brief existence in 1833: Parry, *Coast of Sussex*, 132-3. The fine collection of British birds, housed in the Booth Museum on the Dyke Road, was bequeathed to the town by the late E. T. Booth in 1890.

The rapid development of Brighton at the end of the 18th century seems to have removed practically all traces of its earlier buildings. A very small portion of flint walling on the north side of the Old Market, now a garage, is believed, on slender evidence, to be part of the south wall of St. Bartholomew's Chapel.¹⁹ Part of the Black Lion Brewery, associated with the name of Derrick Carver, 'berebrewer', burnt as a heretic in 1555, appears to be at least as old as the end of the 17th century, and may even be older, as no datable features remain. The building consists of a low square tower, now built about by later structures; its base is completely surrounded by a sort of subterranean cloister, the floor of which is perhaps 10 ft. below that of the central building. The walling of this, as well as that of the subterranean portions of the building, is of flint, and the north wall of the latter is partly in good ashlar which appears to be medieval. The cellar now has a flat vault in modern brick. There are no old openings, and all the walls are thickly covered with whitewash.

The haste with which the new Brighton was built is shown by the materials used in many of the houses. The walls are built of rubble, partly flint, and partly brick-bats, all thrown together without any kind of bonding. Every foot or so is a bonding course of brickwork, and brick quoins are utilized for the angles. The walls are faced with beach pebbles, and it is clear that they have all failed completely to keep out rain. Some of them have been tarred over to waterproof them, but for the most part they show stucco finish, which hides what architectural features they may possess and produces dull uniformity, entirely lacking in character. Many houses were covered with tile-hanging designed to imitate brickwork, known as 'mathematical tiles'.

The plans are typical of the town house of the period, and are of two main types, single- and double-fronted. The latter has the entrance door and staircase set between two blocks of rooms rising three or four stories in height. The single-fronted houses have only one vertical block to each staircase, and are arranged in terrace formation. The chief architectural feature is the projecting window, either a bow, or, more frequently, a bay. There are hardly any doorways worth a mention,²⁰ partly because so many of the old residential houses have had their ground floors re-designed to provide shop accommodation, with a consequent rearrangement of the front of the building. Hardly any old shop fronts remain,²¹ however, and the few that may be discovered in the 'twittens', the narrow lanes leading from Ship and Black Lion Streets, show a remarkable economy of design. The larger terrace schemes of the early 19th century provide the most notable architectural features of Brighton. Some of the fine squares and crescents date from this period of monumental stucco and Classic Revival.

The most famous building in Brighton is the Royal Pavilion. It was begun in 1784, on the site of an earlier farm-house, and completed in its original form in 1787. It then consisted of a long building lying north and south, the ground floor containing five large rooms, with their main windows facing the Steine. The middle three of these rooms formed a suite of Drawing Rooms,

the central of which, the Salon, was roofed with a low dome. The east fronts of all three were bowed towards the Steine. At the northern end was a large Music Room, and at the southern end a Dining Room of similar proportions. These two rooms were connected by a long corridor passing behind the Drawing Rooms and providing access to the private rooms of the building. The architecture of the building was quite simple, the walls being of brick covered with stucco. The chief feature of the main elevation was a colonnaded portico covering the bowed front of the Salon. In 1802, wings were added at either end of the west front, and in 1814 the present kitchen and its offices were added at the south end of the main block. In 1817 the whole structure was redecorated architecturally, in the curious Oriental style which it now exhibits. The original low dome over the Salon was replaced by a taller onion-shaped one, and others were scattered about the roofs of the building. The colonnade was replaced by another with Oriental columns, and the fronts of the building, from which the projecting wings had been removed, were embellished with similar features and small minarets. At the same time, the whole of the interior of the Pavilion was redecorated in the bizarre Oriental style which has been the chief reason for its present architectural notoriety. In 1850, when the Brighton Town Commissioners bought the Pavilion, the furniture, pictures, and some of the internal fittings of the building were taken to Buckingham Palace and elsewhere, and much of the decoration had to be restored.

The town of Brighton **TOWN** and **BOROUGH** did not obtain incorporation until the mid-19th

century, but the townspeople had obtained a considerable control of the town's internal affairs much earlier and they had a town hall before 1580.²² The town lay within three different jurisdictions, which, however, were in the same hands. In 1086 the hundred of Welesmere was in the hands of William de Warenne,²³ and his successors held the court of the hundred of Whalesbone and the court leet at Brighton as late as 1854.²⁴ Atlingworth and Pekes Manor were in Fishersgate Hundred, but this also was held by Earl Warenne.²⁵ All the manors of Brighton belonged to his barony of Lewes; the freeholders owed suit to the court of the barony;²⁶ and the halimote of the town manor of Brighton-Lewes was also held by his steward. The division of the Warenne inheritance in the 15th century complicated the system, while the obligations imposed on the parish by the poor laws of the 16th century did not fit into the scheme of existing town government. In consequence there was much discontent in the town, and a long controversy arose between the fishermen and the townsmen.²⁷ The fishermen addressed a petition to the Privy Council, which on 12 February 1580 appointed a Commission, consisting of the Earl of



BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON.
Argent two dolphins sable swimming in a border azure charged with eight martlets or.

¹⁹ See plan opposite p. 124 of the *Brighton and Hove Archaeologist*, vol. iii.

²⁰ No. 69 Middle Street has a good Georgian doorway.

²¹ Nos. 5 and 6 Little East Street have a good late-18th-century shop-front.

²² Add. MS. 5700, fol. 730. In 1684

the inhabitants of Brighthelmston petitioned for incorporation and the right to send two burgesses to parliament. The petition, which the king favoured, was referred to the Attorney or Solicitor General and is not heard of again: S.P. Dom. Entry Bk. 70, fol. 56.

²³ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 437b.

²⁴ *A Short Account of the Charities, &c.* (1854), 3.

²⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 49.

²⁶ *Ibid.* xxxiv, 194; [Dunvan], *op. cit.* 495.

²⁷ Add. MS. 5700, fol. 73.

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Arundel, Lord Buckhurst, Sir Thomas Shirley, and Richard Shelley, to inquire into their grievances. Their findings are contained in 'The Book of the Auncient Customs heretofore used amonge the Fishermen of the Toune of Brighthelmston'.²⁸ They show the division of the inhabitants into fishermen and landsmen and reveal the surprising fact that the landsmen paid no rates, while the fishermen alone contributed to the town expenses. As the town was burdened 'with the multitude of poor people, which daily are thought to increase, by means of receiving Undertenants, lodging of Strangers and disorder of Tipling houses',²⁹ the discontent of the fishermen was natural. Their contribution came from the profits made on each fishing voyage. These profits were divided, according to scale, into a number of shares, one of which was assigned to the captain of each boat, who paid a quarter of it to the churchwardens, a half to the vicar, and retained for himself the remaining quarter. Besides the quarter share paid to the churchwardens, the only town revenue was derived from two windmills, one of which in 1580 was ruinous.³⁰ Shortly afterwards, the town acquired the Bartholomew property (q.v.).

The government of the town was in the hands of the constable and his two assistants and of the three churchwardens.³¹ The constable was chosen by the court leet of the hundred at the Easter law-day,³² but as the jury was chosen from the hundred, it was not solely representative of Brighton and did not, as was so often the case, develop into the town council. The commissioners introduced a constitutional change into the town government by appointing 'out of the ancientist gravest and wisest of the inhabitants', a body of eight fishermen and four landsmen, known as the Society of the Twelve, to assist the constable in the maintenance of public order. Vacancies were filled up at the court leet by the vote of the surviving members, subject to the approval of the stewards of the manor of Brighton-Lewes. No one without the consent of the constable and the Twelve might call together any meeting touching the government of the town. Each one of the Twelve was responsible for keeping order in a district near his own house.³³

Even more revolutionary was the commissioners' order for a yearly rate to be levied on the more wealthy landsmen according to the value of their tenements.³⁴ It was presumably the first levy of the rate which led to disturbances in 1581.³⁵ Changes in the rate were to be made by the constable, vicar, and twenty of the inhabitants.³⁶

The three churchwardens, two of whom were to be fishermen and one a landsman, were elected with the consent of the vicar and the chief inhabitants of the town,³⁷ but not apparently till the 19th century was there a regular elected vestry. In 1809 the three churchwardens and four overseers of the poor met monthly as a private vestry and only for special business was a public meeting called.³⁸ In 1580, besides the usual duties of churchwardens, the three were responsible

for keeping the store of ammunition for the town defences.³⁹ The rest of the commissioners' award dealt with safeguarding the expenditure, accounts, and penalties for infringing the regulations. All actions and accounts were to be entered in a register by the town clerk,⁴⁰ and the Customs, Orders, and Rates were to be read once a year by the vicar or town clerk in the presence of the ratepayers.⁴¹

A second Book of Customs, drawn up in February 1619,⁴² made more definite rules: thus the expenditure of the money paid from the town box was limited to the maintenance of the church, the communion bread and wine, the maintenance of the lecture, the clerk's and sexton's wages, the lights in the fire cage, payment of the king's oats, and the 'setting forth' of soldiers. The constable was paid £25 8s. a year and, whether fisherman or landsman, had one horse-lease. The two head boroughs each received 5s. 8d. a year as well as one cow-lease and twenty-five sheep-leases by ancient custom.⁴³

Beyond these customs, the town government continued under by-laws made in the court leet and the manorial court.⁴⁴ By the middle of the 18th century the Society of the Twelve had disappeared and all the inhabitants whether fishermen or landsmen paid rates unless exempted on account of poverty.⁴⁵ As the town grew in importance further powers were secured to the townspeople, who obtained in 1773 an Act of Parliament, instituting a body of sixty-four Town Commissioners, elected by inhabitants paying scot and lot. Control of paving, lighting, and cleaning the streets, of the market and fairs and of weights and measures, and powers to build groins and a town hall were given to the commissioners, who were empowered to levy 6d. a chaldron on all coal brought into the town by sea.⁴⁶ Another Act was obtained in 1810⁴⁷ increasing their numbers, powers, and income. Certain members still remained *ex officio*: the lords of the manors of Brighton-Lewes, Atlingworth, and Old Shoreham, the members of Parliament for Sussex and the Sussex boroughs, the high constable of the court leet, and the vicar of Brighton. They were given control of the poor-law administration and further powers over the market. The duty per chaldron of coal was raised to 3s. and was not abolished till 1887.⁴⁸ The commissioners continued to be elected till 1854, but the poor-law administration was transferred in 1825 to the vestry.⁴⁹

In 1854 the town obtained its first charter of incorporation and the government was vested in the mayor, twelve aldermen, and thirty-six councillors representing the six wards, named the Pavilion, Pier, Park, St. Peter's, St. Nicholas, and West wards. The corporation controlled the new police force; a coroner was appointed and a commission of the peace with a separate court of quarter sessions established.⁵⁰ In 1873 part of Preston was included in the municipal borough. Brighton became a county borough under the Local Government Act of 1887, and by the Brighton Corporation Act of 1927 its boundaries were enlarged to include part of the

²⁸ In possession of a Brighton solicitor; MS. copy in the British Museum (Add. MS. 5700); printed in [Dunvan], op. cit.; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ii, 38.

²⁹ Add. MS. 5700, fol. 72.

³⁰ Ibid. fol. 73.

³¹ Ibid. fol. 71.

³² *A Short Account of the Charities, &c.* (1854), 3.

³³ Add. MS. 5700, fols. 71-3; [Dunvan], op. cit. 500.

³⁴ Add. MS. 5700, fol. 73.

³⁵ *Acts of P.C.* 1581-2, p. 117.

³⁶ Add. MS. 5700, fol. 73.

³⁷ Ibid. fol. 71.

³⁸ Sidney Webb, *English Local Government, The Parish and the County*, 55.

³⁹ Add. MS. 5700, fol. 71.

⁴⁰ Adam Cartwright stated in 1653 that he and his father and grandfather had held the office of town clerk for a hundred years: Brighton Parish Register.

⁴¹ Add. MS. 5700, fol. 71.

⁴² [Dunvan], op. cit. 516.

⁴³ Ibid. 517-18.

⁴⁴ Ibid. 495, 499, 500.

⁴⁵ J. G. Bishop, op. cit. 37.

⁴⁶ 13 Geo. III, c. 34.

⁴⁷ 40 Geo. III, c. 117.

⁴⁸ *Ex inf.* F. B. Stevens.

⁴⁹ 6 Geo. IV, c. 179. Brighton was remarkable for having its own Poor Law until quite recently.

⁵⁰ 18 & 19 Vict. c. 31.

parishes of Patcham, West Blatchington, and Falmer, and the parishes of Ovingdean and Rottingdean.⁵¹

In 1832 the parishes of Brighton and Hove were formed into one parliamentary Borough returning two members of Parliament.⁵² By the Boundary Act of 1868 all Preston was included in the parliamentary borough, but in 1918 that part of it outside the County Borough was transferred to the Lewes division.⁵³

In 1580 the Town House stood on the east side of the Blockhouse and was held by copy of court-roll from the lords of Brighton-Lewes.⁵⁴ In 1665 the churchwardens paid an annual rent of 1s. for the Town House.⁵⁵ In 1825 the Town Hall stood in the Bartholomews and was described as 'a small mean insignificant room', where the magistrates had sat until 1821, when they moved to the Old Ship Inn.⁵⁶ The old workhouse, built in 1733 in the Bartholomews,⁵⁷ seems temporarily to have served as a court room, but in 1824 the poor-law authorities sold the Bartholomews to the town commissioners,⁵⁸ who had included the scheme of building a new Town Hall in their programme of improvements, certainly since 1810.⁵⁹ The new hall in Market Street was built by the commissioners in 1830 at a cost of £60,000, largely at the instance of Thomas Read Kemp.⁶⁰

In 1312 John de Warenne, *MARKET and FAIRS* Earl of Surrey, obtained a grant from Edward II of a weekly market on Thursdays and an annual fair on the eve, day, and morrow of St. Bartholomew.⁶¹ In 1773 the control of the market was transferred to the town commissioners,⁶² and in 1810 they were empowered to hold the market daily to meet local needs, though Thursday continued to be the chief market-day.⁶³ In 1580 the Market Place was near the Blockhouse,⁶⁴ and it was evidently in the same position in 1656, when it was on the west cliff, 20 ft. to the east of the Town House.⁶⁵ In 1665 the Market Place was in the Hemp-shares, but the Market House was said to be under the cliff.⁶⁶ It was washed away in the storms of the early 18th century. In 1734⁶⁷ a new market-house was built between Black Lion Street and East Street.⁶⁸ In 1830 it was removed to the west side of Market Street⁶⁹ and it was rebuilt in 1921.⁷⁰

In 1825 a fair for toys and pedlary was held on old St. Bartholomew's day (4 September) and another fair was held on Holy Thursday. In 1837 they were held on Ireland's cricket ground, then in the extreme north of the town, and now the site of Park Crescent.⁷¹

A corn market, by sample, existed in 1825 at the King and Queen Inn⁷² and a cattle market was established there about 1832.⁷³ The inn was afterwards called the Corn Exchange and Horse Market.⁷⁴

A fish market was held on the beach in 1780.⁷⁵ In 1825 it was held near Lamprell's swimming baths and sale was by Dutch auction. The greater part of the

catches was sent to London and fish was by no means plentiful in the town itself.⁷⁶

In the time of Edward the Confessor, *MANORS* Brighton was divided into three holdings, two of which belonged to the king and the third to Earl Godwin. Each part was in the hands of sub-tenants. The largest holding, 6 hides and 1 virgate, was held by three alodial tenants, of whom one had a hall, the other two holdings being in the hands of villeins. The second of the king's holdings was held by Ulward, whose land was assessed at 5½ hides. Earl Godwin's holding was also assessed at 5½ hides and he gave it to a tenant named Brictric. By 1086 all three holdings were in the hands of William de Warenne, as part of his barony of Lewes. The earl had given each holding to a Norman sub-tenant; the largest was held as one manor by Widard, and four haws in Lewes were attached to it; Ulward's land was held by William de Wateville and the church was on his holding; Brictric had been succeeded by Ralph, and from this holding a rent of 4,000 herrings was paid.⁷⁷

One holding evidently escheated to the overlords, since in 1284 the chief manor in Brighton, subsequently known as the manor of *BRIGHTON-LEWES*, was held in demesne by John, Earl Warenne.⁷⁸ It was probably identical with Earl Godwin's holding, since the herring rent of 1086 suggests a fishing community, and a toll of 6 mackerel per boat was due as late as 1862 from the Brighton fishermen, each time they came in from mackerel fishing.⁷⁹ The Domesday tenant Ralph was probably Ralph de Caisneto (Chesney), with whom he has been identified on the somewhat illogical ground that Ralph de Chesney gave to Lewes Priory the church of Brighton, which actually was on William de Wateville's land.⁸⁰ Chesney succeeded to many of Wateville's holdings in Sussex and certainly in Brighton, since besides his gift of the church his descendants were mesne lords there for several centuries. Possibly Ralph de Chesney's grandson John surrendered Earl Godwin's holding, when he succeeded his father about 1147. He obviously found himself in difficulties over paying to the earl the relief due for his lands.⁸¹ Certainly in 1175 Earl William III was able to grant land in Brighton to the priory of Lewes,⁸² which suggests that he was already holding the manor of Brighton-Lewes in demesne. The manor may be described as the town manor and its court was called the halimote.⁸³ The manor followed the descent of the barony of Lewes (q.v.) until 1440, when, on the death of Beatrice widow of Thomas Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel and Surrey, the whole of Brighton-Lewes was assigned to John Mowbray, 3rd Duke of Norfolk, the grandson of Elizabeth Fitzalan, who had married the 1st duke.⁸⁴ On the marriage in 1478 of Anne, daughter and heir of the 5th Duke of Norfolk, to Richard, Duke of York, the son of Edward IV, Brighton-Lewes was amongst the

⁵¹ 21 & 22 Geo V, c. 19 (Preston Rural was not included).

⁵² 2 Will. IV, c. 45.

⁵³ 31-2 Vict. c. 46, s. 11.

⁵⁴ Add. MS. 5700, fol. 73.

⁵⁵ Goodwyn's Rental.

⁵⁶ E. W. Brayley, op. cit. 65.

⁵⁷ [Dunvan], op. cit. 528.

⁵⁸ E. W. Brayley, op. cit. 65.

⁵⁹ *Act of Parl.* 50 Geo. III, cap. 38.

⁶⁰ J. A. Erredge, op. cit. 245.

⁶¹ Chart. R. 6 Edw. II, m. 26, no. 66.

⁶² *Act of Parl.* 13 Geo. III, cap. 34.

⁶³ Ibid. 50 Geo. III, cap. 38.

⁶⁴ Add. MS. 5700, fol. 72.

⁶⁵ [Dunvan], op. cit. 528.

⁶⁶ Goodwyn's Rental.

⁶⁷ [Dunvan], op. cit.

⁶⁸ E. W. Brayley, op. cit. 63.

⁶⁹ Samuel Lewis, *Top. Dict.* (3rd ed.).

⁷⁰ Kelly, *Sussex Directory*, 1934.

⁷¹ E. W. Brayley, op. cit. 65; Thomas

Moule, *The English Counties Delineated*, i,

132. ⁷² E. W. Brayley, loc. cit.

⁷³ S. Lewis, op. cit.

⁷⁴ W. H. Attwick, op. cit. 9.

⁷⁵ *A Description of Brightelmston . . .* (1780), 5-6.

⁷⁶ E. W. Brayley, op. cit. 48, with a view of the fish market and description of the fishery.

⁷⁷ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 438a.

⁷⁸ *Feud. Aids*, v, 129.

⁷⁹ J. A. Erredge, op. cit. 14.

⁸⁰ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 438a.

⁸¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xl, 46-7.

⁸² Ibid. 50.

⁸³ Court Roll of the Barony (50 Hen. III) *penes* the Duke of Norfolk; P.R.O. Mins. Accts. Hen. VII, no. 1474.

⁸⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 187-8; cf. *Cal. Pat.* 1446-52, p. 145; 1467-77, p. 539.

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manors settled on them for their lives.⁸⁵ Anne died in 1481 and Richard in 1483 while they were both still children,⁸⁶ and the manor, like the barony, was divided between the four heirs of Elizabeth Fitzalan—John Howard, afterwards Duke of Norfolk; William, Lord Berkeley, afterwards Earl Marshal and Marquess Berkeley; Thomas, Lord Stanley; and Sir John Wingfield.⁸⁷ An agreement was made by which the Duke of Norfolk and Thomas, Lord Stanley, should each have a moiety of Brighton-Lewes,⁸⁸ but difficulties arose. In 1485 the duke was killed at the Battle of Bosworth Field and his son and heir Thomas, Earl of Surrey, was attainted. The attainder was reversed in 1488–9⁸⁹ and by 1490 he had recovered the bulk of his estates, but the partition of the Warenne lands could not be completed. Wingfield's quarter share, assigned to Stanley, had been transferred before 1503.⁹⁰ Berkeley, however, whose share should have passed to the Earl of Surrey, was heavily in debt to the king.⁹¹ He settled certain property, including his quarter share of Brighton-Lewes, with various remainders including one to Henry VII,⁹² and on the death of the marquess without issue in February 1492 his share in Sussex was taken over by the escheator, who was still accounting for it late in 1493.⁹³ No actual partition of the lands of the manor was made till the 18th century and the whole manor of Brighton seems to have been in the king's hands in 1497.⁹⁴ Maurice Berkeley, the brother and heir of the marquess, recovered his inheritance in 1503.⁹⁵ The Earl of Surrey then successfully petitioned the king and recovered his share of Brighton-Lewes and the other Warenne lands.⁹⁶ Maurice Berkeley had sold, or more probably mortgaged, his quarter share to Lord Bergavenny,⁹⁷ who was one of the overlords of the manor, but this matter seems to have been arranged, since in March 1514, at a court held at Brighton, the tenants of the fourth part of the manor, which had been Lord Berkeley's and formerly Lord Bergavenny's, did homage to the Earl of Surrey and attorned for their lands.⁹⁸ Surrey was created Duke of Norfolk the following year, and this moiety of the manor shared the vicissitudes of the Norfolk quarter of the barony (q.v.) until 1642, when the then Earl of Surrey granted his moieties of the manors of Brighton-Lewes and Meeching (Newhaven) to Lionel, Earl of Middlesex, and other trustees, with a view to the settlement of his debts.⁹⁹ In 1648 the remaining trustees, together with his son Henry, who had succeeded his father as Earl of Surrey and Duke of Norfolk in 1646, mortgaged these manors to Richard Evelyn,¹ who conveyed his interest in 1651 to Robert Heath.² Heath foreclosed, but in the meantime the trustees seem to have obtained a further mortgage from Henry Lane.³ Various law-suits ensued, but

eventually, in 1657, the trustees sold the moiety of the manor for £1,000 to Anthony Shirley of Preston.⁴ In 1660 the reversion was settled on Anne, Shirley's wife, with power to devise it by will.⁵ Anthony was created a baronet in 1666 and died in 1683,⁶ when his widow immediately made her will. She left the moiety of Brighton-Lewes to her brother Richard Onslow for life.⁷ He was lord of the moiety in 1706, and died, as Lord Onslow, in 1716.⁸ The reversion Dame Anne left to her daughter Elizabeth, wife of William Boyce of Hawkhurst, with remainder to their daughter Elizabeth.⁹ The younger Elizabeth married, firstly, John Morton of Pagham c. 1700¹⁰ and, secondly, John Sparrow of Anglesey c. 1715.¹¹ Probably owing to her absence, the moiety appears to have been leased to her uncle Sir Richard Shirley and his descendants.¹² John Sparrow died before 1750¹³ and his widow owned the moiety till her death in 1768.¹⁴ In 1756 she and her eldest son Bodychen filed a bill in Chancery against Thomas Friend, then lord of the other moiety, for the partition of the lands of the manor, which had never been divided, the halimote being held jointly by the stewards for the two moieties. Accordingly in 1760 the customary lands and tenements, with their respective fines, heriots, quit rents, &c., were divided between the lords of the moieties. The other rights appurtenant to the manor, such as the wastes, wrecks of the sea, deodands, waifs and strays, royalties, customary dues, &c., arising from the capstans built on the waste and the common pound of the manor were left undivided. A general court of the manor was held 25 May 1766, when the two moieties were assigned,¹⁵ but the final conveyances were not made till 1776.¹⁶ Bodychen Sparrow was high sheriff of Anglesey in 1753, as was his younger brother Henry in 1773,¹⁷ so they presumably had little personal connexion with Brighton. Bodychen died unmarried early in 1768,¹⁸ a few months before his mother, so that her moiety of Brighton-Lewes passed to Henry Sparrow,¹⁹ who, however, sold it in 1771, as his brother had desired, to Charles Scrase,²⁰ whose family had long been settled in the neighbourhood. Scrase carried out the final division of the lands of the manor of Brighton-Lewes, which had been held in undivided moieties since 1514.²¹ He left the moiety in trust by his will, dated 1792, for his grandson Charles Dickens, with the proviso that he should take the name of Scrase.²² In 1833, Charles Scrase Dickens, junior, succeeded to the moiety of Brighton-Lewes,²³ and he held the manor until his death in 1875. It then passed to his son Charles Spencer Scrase Dickens, and on his death in 1884 to his son Charles Robert Scrase Dickens of Coolhurst, Horsham, by whom it is still held.²⁴

The moiety of Brighton-Lewes which had been

⁸⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxi, p. 66; *Rot. Parl.* (Rec. Com.), vi, 168–9.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸⁸ *Rot. Parl.* (Rec. Com.), vi, 529.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.* 610–11.

⁹⁰ *Ibid.* 531.

⁹¹ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), ii.

⁹² Feet of F. *Suss. Mich.* 5 Hen. VII.

⁹³ Eschaeor's Accts. bdle. 214, no. 2.

⁹⁴ P.R.O. Mins. Accts. Hen. VII, no.

1474.

⁹⁵ P.R.O. C. 43, bdle. 1, no. 35; *Rot.*

Parl. (Rec. Com.), vi, 529–31.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.* Suppl. x.

⁹⁷ Smyth, *Lives of the Berkeleys*, ii, 166;

Suss. Arch. Coll. liv, 75.

⁹⁸ P.R.O. Ct. Rolls, portf. 206, no. 7;

Suss. Arch. Coll. lvii, 185 throws doubt on either the Crown or Lord Bergavenny having been seised of the Berkeley quarter share, but this court roll seems to corroborate Bergavenny having been in seisin.

⁹⁹ Feet of F. Div. Co. Hil. 17 Chas. I.

¹ Add. MS. 39489, fol. 111 d.

² *Ibid.*

³ Add. Ch. 29726.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Preston Manor deeds, copy of will of

Dame Anne Shirley, with marginal notes.

⁶ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iv, 27.

⁷ Copy of will.

⁸ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vi,

125.

⁹ Copy of will.

¹⁰ Add. MS. 39489, fols. 107, 111 d.

¹¹ Add. MS. 28614, fol. 19.

¹² Cal. Misc. Coll. deeds (Sussex Arch. Trust) C. 170; J. G. Bishop, op. cit. 37.

¹³ Add. MS. 39489, fol. 111.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*; P.C.C. 393 Secker.

¹⁵ Add. MS. 28614, fols. 20–1; 39489, fol. 111.

¹⁶ Add. MS. 28614, fol. 24.

¹⁷ P.R.O. *List of Sheriffs*.

¹⁸ P.C.C. 178 Secker.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*; *Recov. R. Mich.* 9 Geo. III, ro. 133.

²⁰ Add. MS. 28614, fol. 22; P.C.C. 178 Secker.

²¹ Add. MS. 28614, fol. 24.

²² Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 111.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ *Ex inf.* F. B. Stevens.

assigned in 1683 to Thomas, Lord Stanley, subsequently Earl of Derby, descended with the $\frac{1}{8}$ of the barony (q.v.), passing to the Earls of Dorset. Richard, 3rd Earl of Dorset, in 1611, obtained a confirmation from James I for the moiety of Brighton-Lewes, amongst other Sussex manors of the Warenne inheritance, which had recently belonged to the Earls of Derby.²⁵ Subsequently he granted the moiety, amongst other property, to trustees with a view to their sale for the payment of his debts after his death.²⁶ He died in 1624, when the title passed to his brother Edward, who with Richard Amherst in 1633 conveyed it to Sir Edward Hales and other feoffees representing the late earl's creditors.²⁷ Afterwards John Tufton, 2nd Earl of Thanet, who married Margaret, the elder daughter of Richard, Earl of Dorset,²⁸ recovered his wife's inheritance, by paying nearly £7,000 to the creditors.²⁹ He died in 1664, and his wife in 1676, and four of their sons succeeded in turn to the earldom, the 6th earl dying in 1729.³⁰ The moiety of Brighton-Lewes, however, came into the possession of the youngest son, Colonel Sackville Tufton, before 1706,³¹ and his son Sackville, who succeeded as the 7th earl in 1729,³² in 1737 sold the moiety to Thomas Friend of Brighton.³³ In 1744 the new owner obtained an assignment of certain copyhold property, belonging to the other moiety. As the land was still held in undivided moieties, he was admitted in the joint court by the two lords of the manor, who then were Mrs. Elizabeth Sparrow and Thomas Friend himself.³⁴ Friend died in 1762, and by his will his moiety of the manor passed to his nephew Thomas Friend,³⁵ who died a year later and left it to his nephew John Bull.³⁶ He in 1770 sold it to

grandson John⁴² in 1147 sold for 100 marks half the land in Brighton which he had inherited from his father Ralph to the Priory of Lewes, in order to raise the money for the relief which he owed to Earl Warenne.⁴³

By the second half of the 12th century the priory had become an important tenant in the parish. The first benefaction was made by Wiard, presumably the Domesday tenant. He gave half a hide of his land to the Priory and his grant was confirmed in 1095 by Earl William (II) de Warenne.⁴⁴ In 1175 William de Warenne granted another 2 virgates in exchange for the mill of Meeching (Newhaven), which his father Rainald had given, when he became a monk at the priory.⁴⁵ These lands were presumably represented in the 16th century by demesne lands in Brighton, which were let at farm for 20s. a year in 1545, when they were in the hands of the king.⁴⁶ It is possible that when the priory lands were alienated they were treated as belonging to the manor of Atlingworth.

In 1147 John de Chesney gave the other moiety of his land to the priory for seven years, free of rent, so that the monks might recoup themselves for 60 marks, which they had already lent to him.⁴⁷ His descendants do not appear as tenants in demesne of any land in Brighton, but only as the mesne lords under the barony of Lewes of part of a knight's fee. John de Chesney left two daughters and co-heirs and from the younger, Alice wife of Geoffrey de Say,⁴⁸ the mesne lordship can be traced to Sir William Heron, who died in 1404.⁴⁹ He had married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of William de Say, and she died seised *inter alia* of seven knights' fees extending into nine parishes in Sussex, one of which was Brighton.⁵⁰ William Heron held them for life and they afterwards passed to her heirs, who were the descendants of her three aunts, the sisters of William de Say.⁵¹ The mesne lordship, however, seems to have disappeared after the partition of her fees.

ERLEYS manor took its name from the Berkshire family of Erleigh or Erley,⁵² who held a knight's fee in Brighton in the 12th century.⁵³ It was evidently formed out of the Chesney holdings, as it was held of William de Say in 1279, when he granted the homage and service of Giles de Erley due from his tenement in Brighton to Oliver de Punchardun and Asceline his wife and her heirs.⁵⁴ The fee was not called a manor until the 17th century, but in the 12th century it had a *curia* and messuage,⁵⁵ and manorial rights were probably attached to it. A court baron was held in the early 18th century,⁵⁶ and in 1771 the lord of the manor claimed both a court leet and court baron.⁵⁷

In 1196 the tenant was John de Erley, who granted a moiety of it, in land and sea, with all its liberties and



TUFTON. Sable an eagle ermine in a border argent.



KEMP. Gules a fesse ermine between three sheaves or all in a border ermine.

his cousin John Kemp, a nephew of Thomas Friend, senior.³⁷ The connexion of the Kemp family with the development of Brighton has already been recorded. John Kemp died in 1774 and the moiety passed to his nephew Thomas Kemp,³⁸ who left it in 1810 to his son Thomas Read Kemp.³⁹ Thomas Wisden was lord of the moiety in 1862, and his family long retained it.⁴⁰

The Sussex estates of William de Wateville, the tenant of the third of William de Warenne's holdings in Brighton in 1086, passed to Ralph de Chesney, possibly by marriage with Wateville's daughter.⁴¹ His



ERLEY. Gules three scallops within a border engrailed argent.

²⁵ Pat. R. no. 1933.
²⁶ Add. MS. 39489, fols. 101-2.
²⁷ Ibid. fol. 102; Recov. R. Trin. 9 Chas. I, ro. 7.
²⁸ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (1st ed.), vii, 288.
²⁹ Add. MS. 39489, fol. 101 d.
³⁰ G.E.C. loc. cit.
³¹ Ibid.; [Dunvan], op. cit. 549; J. G. Bishop, op. cit. 37.
³² G.E.C. loc. cit.
³³ Recov. R. Mich. 28 Geo. II, ro. 432.

³⁴ Add. MS. 28614, fols. 1-2.
³⁵ Ibid. fol. 22; 39489, fol. 111.
³⁶ Ibid. 28614, fol. 23.
³⁷ Ibid.; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxiii, 26.
³⁸ Add. MS. 28641, fol. 23.
³⁹ Ibid. fol. 15.
⁴⁰ Erredge, op. cit. 14.
⁴¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxv, 20.
⁴² Ibid.
⁴³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xl, 46.
⁴⁴ Ibid. xxxviii, 12.
⁴⁵ Ibid. 41, 55.
⁴⁶ P.R.O. Mins. Accts. Hen. VIII,

no. 3498.
⁴⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xl, 46-7.
⁴⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxv, 24.
⁴⁹ Assize R. 918, m. 14; Chan. Inq. p.m. 6 Hen. IV, file 48, no. 21.
⁵⁰ Ibid.
⁵¹ Ibid.
⁵² *V.C.H. Berks.* iii, 213-17.
⁵³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* i, no. 6.
⁵⁴ Assize R. 918, m. 14.
⁵⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* ii, no. 6.
⁵⁶ Add. MS. 39472, fol. 21.
⁵⁷ Recov. R., East. 11 Geo. III, ro. 206.

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free customs to Maud, daughter of Robert de Erley, in exchange for certain Berkshire property. The grant consisted of his *curia* and house and 7 virgates of land, two of which belonged to his demesne, the remaining 5 being in the hands of tenants.⁵⁸ For this she was to pay an annual rent of 24s. and to perform the military service due from half a knight's fee. If she died without issue, the half-fee was to revert to John and his heirs,⁵⁹ but whether it did so is unknown. The Erleys remained as tenants of at least the other moiety of the fee until the 16th century. Giles de Erley held a tenement of William de Say by military service in 1279.⁶⁰ A John de Erley witnessed a charter concerning land in Brighton in 1329,⁶¹ and in 1327 and 1332 he was assessed for two subsidies at a considerable sum.⁶² Another John de Erley died c. 1393 and was succeeded by his son John.⁶³ In 1457 John Erley of Brighton was described as the 'kinsman' of John Erley,⁶⁴ and about 1500 John Erley the younger, son of another John, died seised of 100 acres of land, 200 acres of pasture, and 8 acres of meadow in Brighton and Perching. His widow Margaret disputed the property with John Erley of Lewes, who claimed it as son and heir of Robert, uncle of John Erley the younger.⁶⁵ His claim appears to have been successful and by his will, made in 1508, he left his property in Brighton to his son John, with remainder to his daughters Isabel and Alice.⁶⁶ The younger John died, without surviving male issue, before the spring of 1538,⁶⁷ and the manor of Erleys passed to his daughters, of whom there were four, as the manor was held in four *pourparties*.⁶⁸ In 1538 Agnes, one of his daughters, was the wife of Clement Poggesley, and they quit-claimed her quarter of the manor to Nicholas Jenny and his wife Agnes to hold for the life of the latter Agnes⁶⁹ (possibly the widow of John Erley). Ann, another of his daughters, is said to have married William Hawle of Ore,⁷⁰ and the third, Jane, married, before 1552, William Newton, who had recently settled at Southover.⁷¹ She died before 1563,⁷² and the Newtons seem to have acquired the whole manor. Her son Nicholas bought a quarter share in 1573 from Francis Cotton and his wife Mary and Geoffrey Poole and his wife Katharine;⁷³ it was the inheritance of Mary, perhaps the fourth daughter of John Erley. In 1631 George Newton, a grandson of John Erley, and his wife Mary and Nicholas Newton sold the manor to Abraham Edwards, junior,⁷⁴ whose elder brother of the same name bought the manor of Atlingworth (q.v.). Both brothers obtained a further

release of Erley's manor from Robert Clarke and his wife Anne, who had a life interest in it.⁷⁵ The younger brother died seised of the manor in 1643, leaving no issue,⁷⁶ and the elder Abraham only survived him by ten days.⁷⁷ It passed to the latter's son Abraham, who was then 8 years old.⁷⁸ In 1656 he sold Erley's manor to Richard Gunne.⁷⁹ Courts were held in this name from 1686 to 1715.⁸⁰ In 1720 William Vinall, junior,⁸¹ had succeeded him, and he owned the manor in 1736.⁸² From him it was bought by Thomas Friend⁸³ and afterwards passed to the Kemps, Thomas Kemp being lord of the manor in 1771,⁸⁴ after which date it was probably absorbed into the main manor.

SEYNTCLERE'S or HARECOURT'S MANOR was held in 1423, of Beatrice Countess of Arundel.⁸⁵

The first sub-tenant of the manor whose name is known was Thomas de Aldham, who in 1268 sued various men for taking goods from his manor of Brighton during the recent civil wars.⁸⁶ The manor is not mentioned in the inquisition taken after his death.⁸⁷ His lands passed to the St. Cleres by marriage after the death of Francis de Aldham, c. 1326,⁸⁸ and Brighton appears amongst the manors settled on feoffees to uses by Sir Philip St. Clere before 1396, when Alan St. Just, one of the feoffees, released his right in the manor.⁸⁹ Sir Philip died in 1408⁹⁰ and his son John was a minor in the king's wardship.⁹¹ The issues of Seyntclere's manor were taken by the Prior of Michelham from 1408 to 1423, on what grounds does not appear.⁹² John died in 1418 and was succeeded by his brother Thomas, who came of age in 1423.⁹³ The manor then consisted of the site and 12 virgates of arable land, with certain pasture.⁹⁴ Philip St. Clere had also held a rent of 42s. a year issuing from lands in Brighton, but these were held of Portslade Manor.⁹⁵ In 1425 Thomas St. Clere settled the reversion of the manor, then held for life by John Nelonde and his wife Margaret, on feoffees to uses,⁹⁶ who were in seisin till after his death in 1435.⁹⁷ He left three daughters and co-heirs, and the manor passed to the youngest, Edith, who married Sir Richard Harcourt.⁹⁸ He survived her, dying in 1484 seised of 40 acres of land in Brighton and Portslade,⁹⁹ and the manor of Seyntcleres from this time was generally known as Harecourt's manor. It passed from Sir



ST. CLERE. *Azure a sun or.*

⁵⁸ Two of these tenants were Wulwin and Kete; it is perhaps worth noting that Wulwin and Chetel were among the tenants of the land which John de Chesney gave to Lewes Priory in 1147: *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xl, 46.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.* ii, no. 6.

⁶⁰ Assize R. 918, m. 14.

⁶¹ P.R.O. Cal. deeds enrolled (De Banco, R. 279, m. 1).

⁶² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 173, 287.

⁶³ *Cal. Pat.* 1391-6, p. 388.

⁶⁴ Add. MS. 39378 (notes from a De Banco Roll, which is now unfit for production).

⁶⁵ Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 133, nos. 33, 34.

⁶⁶ P.C.C. 14 Bennett; Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 406, no. 17.

⁶⁷ Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 29 Hen. VIII.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* Trin. 15 Eliz.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* Hil. 29 Hen. VIII.

⁷⁰ Berry, *Sussex Genealogies*, 272.

⁷¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 338.

⁷² *Ibid.*

⁷³ Feet of F. Suss. Trin. 15 Eliz.

⁷⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 314; Feet of F. Suss. Trin. 6 Chas. I; *ibid.* Mich. 7 Chas. I.

⁷⁵ Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 23 Chas. I; this fine appears amongst the Feet of Fines of the Michaelmas term, 1647, when both brothers were dead and the heir was not of age.

⁷⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), dcii, no. 30.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.* no. 34.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

⁷⁹ *Recov. R. Mich.* 1656, ro. 206.

⁸⁰ Add. MS. 39472, fol. 21.

⁸¹ *Ibid.*

⁸² *Recov. R. Hil.* 20 Geo. II, ro. 178.

⁸³ *Close R.* 6308 (11 Geo III), 13.

⁸⁴ *Recov. R. East.* 11 Geo III, ro. 206; East. 15 Geo. III, ro. 398.

⁸⁵ Chan. Inq. p.m. 1 Hen. VI, no. 30.

⁸⁶ *Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com.), 162, 176-7.

⁸⁷ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ii, no. 193.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.* vii, no. 5.

⁸⁹ *Cal. Close*, 1392-6, p. 512.

⁹⁰ Lambeth, Reg. Arundel, ii, fol. 254.

⁹¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 1 Hen. VI, no. 30.

⁹² *Ibid.*

⁹³ *Ibid.*

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*; three extents of the manor were made at the coming of age of Thomas St. Clere and in the first the manor was extended at only 6 virgates. This was apparently a mistake, corrected in the two later inquisitions. Each virgate here only contained 10 acres.

⁹⁵ *Ibid.*; see Pokes manor.

⁹⁶ *Cal. Close* 1422-9, p. 212.

⁹⁷ Chan. Inq. p.m. 17 Hen. VI, file 308, no. 56.

⁹⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* viii, 127; *Cal. Inq. p.m. Hen. VII*, i, no. 205.

⁹⁹ Sheriff's Acc. Surrey and Sussex, E. 136, bdle. 214, no. 2; in the inquisition taken on Sir Richard's lands, the date of his death is given as 1486, but the sheriff appears to have accounted since 1484; *Cal. Inq. p.m. Hen. VII*, i, no. 205.

Richard to his grandson Miles Harcourt.¹ Its history is then lost for more than 200 years. From 1690 to 1725 it belonged to John Friend.² Before 1744 it passed to his brother Thomas, the purchaser of one moiety of Brighton-Lewes Manor (q.v.).³ In 1760 Mary Friend, widow of John,⁴ held the manor court.⁵ Thomas died in 1761 and his property passed to the Kemps.⁶ In 1795⁷ and 1822⁸ it belonged to Nathaniel Kemp of Ovingdean.

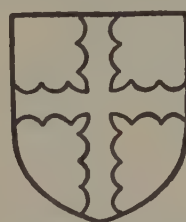
The 'Priours Place of Michelham in Brighthelmston',⁹ which later became the manor of **BRIGHTON-MICHELHAM**, can be traced to the grant made to the Priory of Michelham in 1249 by Hugh Baudefar of 8 virgates of land, which he had bought from John de Berners, reserving to himself and his wife a rent of 8 marks and 10d. a year during their lives.¹⁰ In 1260 the priory gave to the Priory of Lewes 1½ rods which lay between the latter's land and the cemetery wall of St. Nicholas' church, in exchange for other land in Brighton of the same extent.¹¹ The possessions of Michelham Priory in Brighton were valued at £5 a year in 1291,¹² and also in 1535, when the lands were let at farm to John Smyth *alias* Waterman.¹³ No manor is mentioned in 1535, but the Brighton lands of the Priory of Michelham appear to have been so called after the grant in 1537 of its property to Thomas Cromwell.¹⁴ On his attainder the manor was granted by Henry VIII to Anne of Cleves for her life.¹⁵ In 1557 the manor reverted to the Crown, and Queen Elizabeth granted it in December 1559 to Robert Freke of the Inner Temple.¹⁶ Five days later he released it to Sir Richard Sackville,¹⁷ from whom it descended to the Dukes of Dorset.¹⁸ John Frederick, the 3rd duke, settled it in 1790, prior to his marriage with Arabella Diana, daughter of Sir Charles Cope, bart., on himself for life, with remainder to her and her assigns.¹⁹ He was succeeded in 1799 in the dukedom by his son, a minor, and his widow held the manorial court as guardian.²⁰ After the death of the young duke in 1815, the manor passed to his mother. She had married Charles, Earl of Whitworth, and in 1818 made another settlement of the manor on herself and her two daughters by the Duke of Dorset, Mary, Countess of Plymouth, and Elizabeth, Countess de la Warr.²¹ The duchess died in 1825 and the manor was apparently sold to Henry Bridger²² in the same year.

The manor of **RADDINGDEAN**²³ lay in the parishes of Brighton and Preston and was held as one knight's fee of the Barony of Lewes.²⁴ It was probably in the hands of Wiard in 1086. According to the Domesday Survey, he only held one manor at Brighton,²⁵ but his gifts to the priory of Lewes included tithes of his

demesne at 'Rateden'.²⁶ In the 13th century a family taking its name from this land was prominent in Sussex. William de Ratenden, the first known tenant of the fee,²⁷ was succeeded, c. 1256,²⁸ by his brother Walter, who greatly improved his standing by his marriage with one of the sisters and co-heirs of John de Mucegros.²⁹ Their son John, in 1318, settled property in Brighton and Preston on himself with remainder to his three daughters Alice, Maud, and Agatha and to John son of John



RATENDEN. *Azure ten martlets argent.*



DALYNGRIGGE. *Argent a cross engrailed gules.*

de Hyndale.³⁰ He died before 1356 and the manor passed to his eldest daughter Alice, wife of Roger son of Thomas Dalyngrigge.³¹ She died before 1362, when Roger married Alice, widow of Thomas Seymour,³² and Roger died c. 1380, when his heir was Sir Edward Dalyngrigge,³³ the builder of Bodiam castle (q.v.).³⁴ Raddingdean, however, remained in the possession of Roger's widow Alice, who was holding it in dower as late as 1401,³⁵ when the reversion of it was granted to Sir Edward's son and heir John.³⁶ Sir John Dalyngrigge died on 26 September 1408.³⁷ He appointed his wife Alice and his brother-in-law Thomas Sackville the supervisors of his will, for the distribution of his property other than real estate.³⁸ At the inquisition taken after the death of his widow Alice in February 1442, a will of Sir John Dalyngrigge was quoted as being dated on 22 June 5 Henry V (1417) on the eve of his departure from England, but presumably this is a slip for 5 Henry IV (1404). By this, if he died without children, Raddingdean and certain other manors were to go to Alice for life on condition that she maintained his two cousins, Richard and William, the sons of his uncle Walter Dalyngrigge. After her death, Raddingdean was left to William, the younger cousin, and the heirs of his body, with reversion to Richard. Alice died seised of the manor. She survived William, who also left no issue, and it passed to his brother.³⁹ In 1441 the manor consisted of the site or demesne, 132 acres of arable land, 300 acres of pasture and a dovecot.⁴⁰ Richard Dalyngrigge died in 1471 and had bequeathed

¹ Ibid.

² Add. MS. 5683, fol. 181r.

³ J. G. Bishop, op. cit. 37.

⁴ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 124.

⁵ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 181r.

⁶ Add. MS. 28614, fols. 22-3.

⁷ [Dunvan], op. cit. 549.

⁸ *Borough of Brighton, Copies of deeds*, &c. (1878).

⁹ P.R.O. Foreign Acc. E. 364, no. 81r.

¹⁰ Feet of F. Suss. Mich. 33 Hen. III (file 16, no. 18); *Mon. Angl.* vi, 495.

¹¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xl, 47.

¹² *Tax. P. Nich.* (Rec. Com.), 140.

¹³ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), i, 353.

¹⁴ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xii, pt. ii, p. 350.

¹⁵ Pat. R., no. 955.

¹⁶ Close R., no. 567 (17).

¹⁷ Feet of F. Suss. East. 13 Eliz.; Hil.

26-7 Chas. II; Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cccxi, 110; ccccv, 153; Recov. R. Trin.

7 Anne, ro. 220; East. 9 Geo. III, ro. 301.

¹⁹ Add. MS. 39489, fol. 104.

²⁰ Preston Manor Deeds: copy of court roll, 1807.

²¹ Ibid.; G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.) iv, 428; Recov. R. Trin. 58 Geo. III, ro. 429.

²² Recov. R. Mich. 6 Geo. IV, ro. 445; East. 7 Geo. IV, ro. 27; E. W. Brayley,

op. cit. 8; T. W. Horsfield, *Hist. and Antiq. of Lewes*, ii, 33.

²³ A full account of the manor of Raddingdean is given in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxii, 68-92, but it contains a few mistakes.

²⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 192; Chan. Inq. p.m. 11 Edw. IV, no. 48; ibid. (Ser. 2), lxxv, no. 48.

²⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 308a.

²⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii, 12-13.

²⁷ Ibid. xxxiv, 194.

²⁸ *Excerpt. e Rot. Fin.* ii, 230; *Suss. Rec.*

Soc. xxxiv, 192.

²⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxii, 70.

³⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxiii, p. 41.

³¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxii, 76.

³² Ibid.

³³ Ibid. 77; Chan. Inq. p.m. 21 Hen.

VI, no. 52.

³⁴ *V.C.H. Suss.* ix, 263.

³⁵ Add. Ch. (B.M.) 20087.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxxviii, 266.

³⁸ Ibid.; Lambeth, Reg. Arundel, i, fol.

36.

³⁹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 21 Hen. VI, no. 52.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

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it to his nephew Sir Roger Lewkenor, the son of his sister Philippa.⁴¹ Sir Roger died in 1478 and left Raddingdean to one of his younger sons, Reynold, in tail male.⁴² Reynold apparently died without surviving sons and the manor reverted to the elder line of the family.⁴³ On the death of another Roger Lewkenor, c. 1546, it passed to his daughter Joan for life, with remainder to her three daughters.⁴⁴ The eldest of these, Anne, married first Sir Henry Knyvet and secondly John Vaughan.⁴⁵ She and her second husband in 1567 sold the manor to Richard Elrington,⁴⁶ the lessee of Preston manor. In 1569 he left all his freehold lands in Sussex to his wife Mary and her heirs.⁴⁷ Her first husband had been William Shirley of Wiston and Raddingdean passed to her younger son Anthony Shirley.⁴⁸ It was held by the Shirleys until 1705, when Sir Richard Shirley, bart., died unmarried.⁴⁹ The manor passed to his sister Mary, the wife of Thomas Western,⁵⁰ whose great-grandson, Charles Callis Western, sold it in 1794 to William Stanford of Preston.⁵¹ As a separate estate Raddingdean has entirely disappeared, even the name being lost.

The manor of *ATLINGWORTH*, when it is first mentioned, in 1296, was in Fishersgate Hundred,⁵² and was perhaps included amongst the Warenne holdings there in 1086. Again, in 1298, the manor was held by the Prior of Lewes, not directly of the Barony of Lewes, but as part of the fee of Benfield (in Twineham) held by Richard fitz John, whose brother John had held this as part of 7½ fees attached to Shere (Surrey).⁵³ On the partition of Richard's lands amongst his sisters and co-heirs, Atlingworth was assigned to Joan, widow of Theobald le Botiler,⁵⁴ but no more is heard of this mesne lordship. In 1428 it was held by the Prior as a quarter-fee.⁵⁵ The lands of the manor lay in the four parishes of Portslade, Aldrington, Brighton, and Hove, and in 1535 it was described as the manor of Atlingworth in Portslade.⁵⁶ The Brighton lands lay intermixed with the lands of other manors there, so that in 1611 part of the Block House, which stood near the southern end of Middle Street, was built on the demesne of the manor.⁵⁷ The houses of the customary tenants, however, were grouped together near North Street.⁵⁸

In the 12th century Atlingworth was held by a family of Clere.⁵⁹ About 1180, Roger, son of Roger de Clere, gave all his land there to the Priory of Lewes.⁶⁰ His father was probably the Roger de Clere who witnessed John de Chesney's charter to the priory in 1147.⁶¹ The younger Roger died before 1185, when his brother and heir Ralph quit-claimed the 'whole vill' of Atlingworth, the gift of his brother, to the priory.⁶²

but he was to hold it for life for the rent of 1 mark.⁶³ The gift was confirmed by Henry II and Earl Hamelin.⁶⁴ In 1190 Avice de Gurney, the widow of Roger de Clere, relinquished her dower in Atlingworth to the priory.⁶⁵ On Ralph's death his son, another Ralph, was in ward to the Archbishop of Canterbury.⁶⁶ Although he acknowledged the Prior's right in February 1206,⁶⁷ he subsequently brought a lawsuit as to a carucate of land there.⁶⁸ Finally, in 1210, he quit-claimed all the land granted by his uncle and father and 'offered the same land by my knife upon the high altar of St. Pancras'.⁶⁹

In 1535 the demesne lands were held at farm by Peter Snelling for £7 6s. 8d. a year; and assised rents from lands in the four parishes brought in £7 15s. 3½d.⁷⁰ Atlingworth was surrendered with the other possessions of the priory in 1537 to Henry VIII⁷¹ and was granted to Thomas Cromwell.⁷² After his attainder, it remained in the Crown until 1560, when Queen Elizabeth sold it to William Hooke of Brighton and Philip Myllers of Slinfold to hold as ⅙th of a knight's fee.⁷³ A year later Myllers relinquished his moiety of the manor to Hooke,⁷⁴ who was involved in several chancery suits with his copyhold tenants as to their customary payments.⁷⁵ It was shortly afterwards bought by John Caryll, son of John Caryll, sergeant-at-law.⁷⁶ The younger Caryll died seised of it in 1566. His son, a third John,⁷⁷ sold it in 1590 for £960 to Richard Snelling of Portslade.⁷⁸ In 1610 Sir George Snelling and Richard Snelling sold it to Abraham Edwards of Lewes,⁷⁹ after which it followed the descent of the manor of Portslade (q.v.) until the death of William Davies in 1763.⁸⁰ His younger daughter Mary died unmarried and her moiety of Atlingworth reverted to her elder sister Elizabeth, the wife of Thomas Phillips Lamb. They sold Mary's moiety in 1750 to William Attree,⁸¹ but retained Elizabeth's moiety until 1806, when they sold it to William Attree,⁸² who bequeathed the whole manor to Thomas Attree.⁸³

The manor of *PEKES* in Brighton was held in 1584 as a sub-manor of Portslade.⁸⁴ It first appears under the name of Pokes in 1543, but may possibly be connected with certain land held by the St. Clere family. In 1408⁸⁵ Philip St. Clere died seised of a rent of 42s. a year, issuing from tenements in Brighton and Portslade, which were held of Lord de la Warr, lord of the manor of Portslade.⁸⁶ It is specially noted in 1423 that these lands were not parcel of Seyntclere's manor in Brighton.⁸⁷ In 1435 Thomas St. Clere died seised of this rent.⁸⁸

In the early part of the 16th century the manor of Pokes was held by Sir Humphrey Bannaster, whose

⁴¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 11 Edw. IV, no. 48.

⁴² P.C.C. 1 Logge.

⁴³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 445.

⁴⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), lxxv, no. 48.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 366; Close R. 730, no. 22.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

⁴⁷ P.C.C. 5 Lyon.

⁴⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxiii, 85, 88.

⁴⁹ Add. Ch. 29726, 29728; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 194; G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iv, 27.

⁵⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxiii, 92.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*; cf. *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 361.

⁵² *Ibid.* x, 49.

⁵³ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ii, no. 153.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.* iii, 422.

⁵⁵ *Feud. Aids*, v, 143.

⁵⁶ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), i, 330.

⁵⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 215.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

⁵⁹ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 355-7. Roger de Clere in 1243 sold the manor of Shere to John, son of Geoffrey fitz Piers, ancestor of Richard fitz John, mentioned above: *V.C.H. Surrey*, iii, 113.

⁶⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xl, 52.

⁶¹ *Ibid.* 46.

⁶² *Ibid.* 52-3.

⁶³ *Ibid.* 53.

⁶⁴ *Curr. Reg. R.* iv, 62.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.* v, 29, 67, 149, 174.

⁶⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xl, 50-1.

⁶⁷ *Valor Eccles.* (Rec. Com.), i, 330-1.

⁶⁸ Feet of F. Div. Co. Mich. 29 Hen.

VIII.

⁶⁹ *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 384

(74); P.R.O. Mins. Accts. Hen. VIII,

no. 3498.

⁷⁰ Pat. R. no. 957.

⁷¹ *Ibid.* no. 965.

⁷² Chan. Proc. (Ser. 2), bde. 92, no. 2;

bde. 163, no. 19; bde. 190, no. 1; bde.

191, no. 2.

⁷³ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cxliii, 28.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

⁷⁵ Pat. R. no. 1357; Feet of F. Suss.

Mich. 32-3 Eliz.; Add. Ch. 18860.

⁷⁶ Feet of F. Suss. Mich. 8 Jas. I.

⁷⁷ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 114.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*; Recov. R. Mich. 46 Geo. III,

ro. 418; Mich. 60 Geo. III, ro. 418;

Feet of F. Suss. East. 46 Geo. III.

⁸⁰ Horsfield, loc. cit.

⁸¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cc, 47; *Suss.*

Rec. Soc. xxxiv, 205.

⁸² Lambeth, Reg. Arundel, ii, 254.

⁸³ Chan. Inq. p.m. 1 Hen. VI, no. 30.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*

⁸⁵ *Ibid.* 17 Hen. VI, no. 56.

son and heir John sold it to John Michelborne of Ditchling and his son Richard⁸⁹ shortly before 1543, when Richard released his right in the manor to his father.⁹⁰ In 1584 Thomas Michelborne, third son of John,⁹¹ died seised of the manor.⁹² His son Lawrence, who was lord of the manor in 1604,⁹³ died in 1611 and was succeeded by Sir Richard Michelborne,⁹⁴ grandson of the first Richard. His son William, who succeeded him in 1638 and died in 1656, left a son Edward, who died 1701, when his property passed to his sisters Sybil and Bridget. Sybil married John Martin of Stanmer⁹⁵ and their son Denny Martin owned the manor in 1730.⁹⁶ In 1795 it had passed to the Rev. Denny Fairfax,⁹⁷ after which it is lost sight of.



MICHELBORNE. Or a cross between four eagles sable.

The old parish church of *ST. CHURCHES NICHOLAS* stands on the hill above the Old Town, a furlong from the site of its West Gate. The building is of flint with stone dressings, and consists of a nave and chancel, both with aisles to north and south, and a western tower. There is a south porch to the nave, and vestries north of the chancel. The 12th-century font suggests that the original edifice was of this period. The chancel, however, was apparently rebuilt, with a south chapel, at the end of the 13th century, and a century later the whole nave was rebuilt in five bays with an aisle to each side and a sturdy western tower. During the period of Brighton's rapid growth galleries were inserted, and dormer windows cut through the aisle roofs to light these. By the 19th century the building was in a very patched condition,⁹⁸ and in 1853 it was practically rebuilt by R. C. Carpenter. The nave aisles were widened, and the chancel given a north aisle. At a later restoration the nave roof was raised, the clerestory constructed, and extensive vestries built north of the chancel. The south chapel has been widened. The only old work showing externally is the tower, most of the features of which have been restored. Thus the west door is modern, and also the windows above it. The west window of the south aisle, a 14th-century single-light with trefoiled ogee head, appears to be an old feature, re-set when the nave aisles were widened. Only the arcades of the nave and its chancel and tower arches, and the tower itself, remain of the late-14th-century church.

The nave arcades are each of five bays, of normal 14th-century form, with obtusely pointed arches rising from octagonal piers. The caps each have a scroll-roll abacus, with two hollows, separated by a fillet, beneath this. The bases are high, with a small shelf below the moulding, which consists of two hollow splays. The chancel arch, and that leading to the tower space, are similar to the nave arcades. The west respond of the arch to the south chapel is partly original.

The original oak rood-screen, of late-14th-century date, remains within the chancel arch. It has been much

restored, but retains a considerable amount of old work. It has a central doorway, occupying the width of two normal bays, with three bays on either side. Small buttresses pass up the mullions, changing to shafts near the top. The head of each light is ogee, with tracery above. A wide ogee arch heads the central doorway, with more elaborate tracery above it. The heads and tracery are all foliated. Each bay of the solid lower part of the screen is divided into two panels with foliated heads. The screen is surmounted by an elaborately coved loft. This projects more towards the east than the west, and this fact, coupled with the discovery of painted figures on the east side of the screen during the restoration of 1853, suggests that the screen has been re-set back to front.

The font is of exceptional interest.⁹⁹ It is of tub form, in Caen stone, and is obviously of foreign origin. It is apparently of early-12th-century date, and is covered with sculpture arranged in three bands. The upper and lower of these are narrow strips of conventional ornament, but the wide central section has figure sculpture, in markedly Byzantine style, arranged in four panels. Two of these represent the Baptism of Christ and the Last Supper, a third is a maritime adventure of St. Nicholas, and the fourth may also be an unidentified incident in the life of this saint. The sculpture was partly recut in 1745 at the instigation of two churchwardens, whose names, cut, with the date, into the base of the font, have since been erased.

Of the many memorials remaining in the building none is earlier than 1675.

There are ten bells, of which eight were made by Thomas Rudhall in 1777, but one was recast in 1812, another in 1815, and the remainder more recently.¹

The plate, given by Nathaniel Kemp and his wife in 1824, consisted of two chalices, a flagon, and two alms-plates; but the chalices were re-made in 1880.²

In the churchyard is a medieval octagonal stepped base of a cross, the cross itself being modern, carved by D. Burns Brown. Among the monuments may be noted those of Capt. Nicholas Tattersall and of Phoebe Hessel, who died in 1821 at the age of 108, having served for some years in the army as a soldier.

ST. PETER'S was constituted the Parish Church in 1873. It is of ashlar and is built on a north and south alignment and consists of a pinnacled tower containing ten bells, having a porch in its base, to the south of a clerestoried nave of five bays with aisles in the Decorated style and built in 1824-8 to the design of Sir Charles Barry. In 1898-1902 another bay was added to the nave, and the clerestoried chancel and the chapel at the north-east were built in the Perpendicular style, the architect being Somers Clarke, and in 1906 the chancel was consecrated. The chapel has a piscina in its eastern wall, and the chancel has sedilia and a credence table. Beneath the chancel are vestries and a muniment room where the parish registers are kept. The register for baptisms dates from 1558, that for marriages from 1559, and that for burials from 1587.³ The hall to the north-west was built in 1928.

ALL SAINTS, Compton Avenue, was built in 1852,

⁸⁹ De Banco R. 1145, deeds enrolled, mm. 16-17.

⁹⁰ Ibid.

⁹¹ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 255.

⁹² Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cc, no. 47.

⁹³ Feet of F. Suss. Hil. 2 Jas. I.

⁹⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxiv, 205.

⁹⁵ For the pedigree of Michelborne see

Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Ardingly)*, 255-65.

⁹⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 342; Add. MS. 5684, fol. 49.

⁹⁷ [Dunvan], op. cit. 599.

⁹⁸ There is a good collection of drawings of St. Nicholas Church in the Pavilion; and an account of the church and its alteration in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxii.

⁹⁹ Illustrated in Bond, *Fonts and Font Covers*, 162.

¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 179, 202.

² Ibid. lv, 131.

³ The registers, down to 1701, have been printed under the editorship of H. D. Roberts.

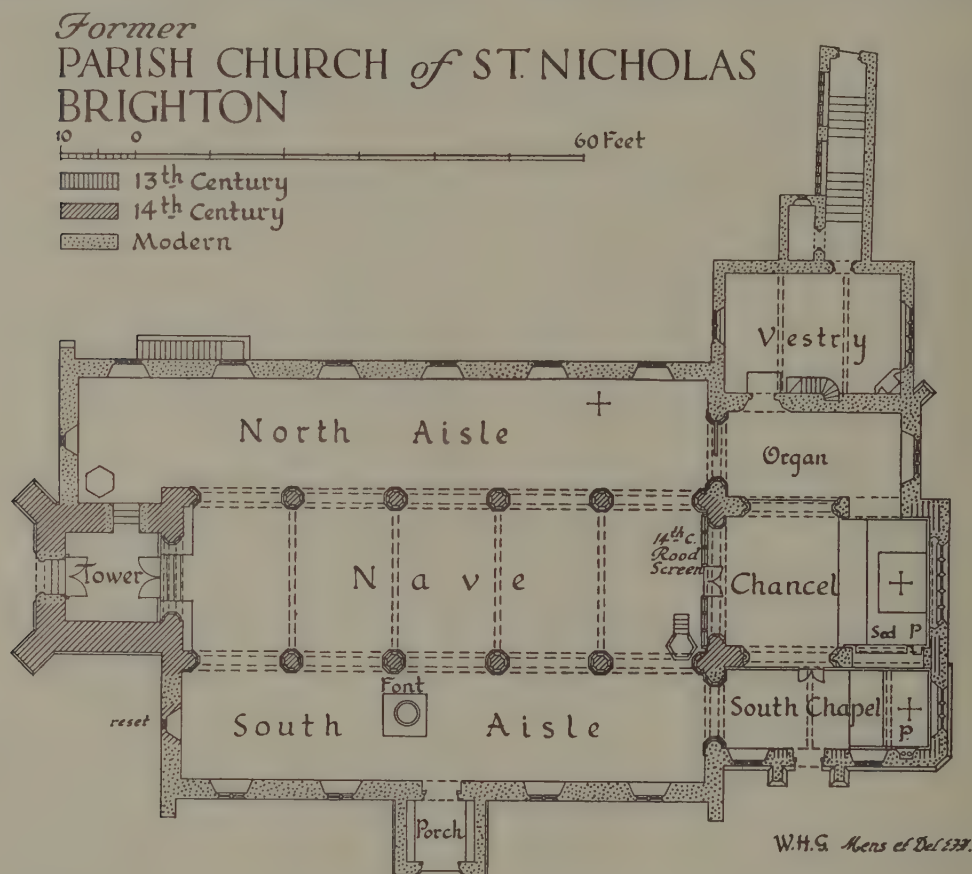
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from the designs of R. C. Carpenter, of split flint with stone dressings in the Decorated style; it has a nave of seven bays with large aisles and a chancel. The organ is at the east end of the south aisle and both aisles have altars. There is the base of a tower at the west end of the north aisle with a small turret on its north-west corner.

ALL SOULS, Eastern Road, was built in 1833 of brick with a cement facing in the Classic style. It was designed by Mr. Maw, but remodelled in 1879 by

cement spire at the east end with entrances on either side at its base, and a porch at the west end. The nave has north and south aisles beneath galleries, the chancel being formed from it by the erection of two screens in 1888.

HOLY TRINITY, Ship Street, was built in 1817,⁴ consecrated in 1826, enlarged in 1869, 1882, and 1887, and restored in 1910, and is cement-faced, except for the east end, which is of split flint with stone dressings and has a small lantern tower. The altar is at the west,



Edmund Scott. It has a nave with aisles beneath a gallery, which runs also on the west, and a chancel with chapels partitioned off its north and south aisles. There is a tower at the north-west with the entrance at its base.

The Church of *THE ANNUNCIATION*, Washington Street, was built in 1864, enlarged in 1881, consecrated in 1884, and restored in 1925, and is of cement and flint with brick dressings. The entrance is at the base of a small tower with a tiled spire at the south-east, the vestry being at the north-east. The altar is at the west end of this dark church, which has a nave with aisles, a chancel formed by wooden partitions, the organ and choir stalls inclosed at the south-west, and a small chapel partitioned off at the north-west. Square wooden pillars support the wooden roof. The window at the east end was taken from St. Nicholas in 1882.

CHRIST CHURCH, Montpelier Road, was designed and built by G. Cheesman in 1838 and is of brick with a cement facing. There is a tower with a

the entrances being at the east. The church is of simple design and is composed of a clerestoried nave with north and south aisles beneath galleries, an organ-gallery on the east side, and chancel. The west window is in memory of F. W. Robertson who was vicar from 1847-53 and of whom there is a bust at the west end of the north nave, where a space is set apart as a memorial to other vicars.

The *CHAPEL ROYAL*, Prince's Place, is of red brick, with a cast of the Royal Arms above the east end. The foundation stone was laid in 1793 by George IV, then Prince of Wales. In 1803 an Act (43 Geo. III c. 91) was passed whereby the chapel was made a Chapel of Ease to the Parish Church (the right of nomination being reserved to the vicar) and constituted a perpetual curacy, but it was enacted that only baptizings and churchings should be allowed in the chapel, and for these at least double fees should be charged in order not to prejudice the Parish Church. The interior was entirely altered in 1876, and in 1882

⁴ In 1833 it had 'an indifferent Doric portico, and a very heavy turret': Parry, *Coast of Sussex*, 109.

the clock-tower at the south-east corner was added. The original design was by — Saunders, the remodeling by Sir Arthur Blomfield. In 1896 the chapel was conveyed by the Rev. J. J. Hannah to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, but the vaults were reserved and are now leased to a wine merchant. The entrance is beneath the tower and the small chancel is at the west. Above the nave and aisles on three sides is a broad wooden gallery supported by wooden pillars which are continued up to the roof. The roof is curved up to a square glazed lantern.

ST. ANNE, Burlington Street, designed by B. Ferrey, was built in 1862 of rough-finished stone with ashlar dressings in the Gothic style. It is on a north and south alignment and consists of a clerestoried nave of five bays with aisles, and clerestoried chancel at the north with the vestry on the east and the organ on the west. There is a small stone spire at the north end. The west aisle has an altar at its north end, and is used as a side chapel.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW, Ann Street, is a lofty and conspicuous building of brick with sparse stone dressings. It was built, from the designs of Edmund Scott, in 1874 on a north and south alignment and consists of a large nave with eight arched recesses in each wall and, at the north end, the sanctuary with steps leading up to the altar. The windows are close to the roof and have a passage-way in the wall below them. Inlaid in the brick above the altar is a large cross; in the south wall there is a round window, beneath which is a wooden organ-gallery, with a chapel below it. The porch is at the south-west.

ST. GEORGE, St. George's Road, was built by Wilds and Busby in 1825 of yellow brick with plaster dressings in the Classic style. A porch is formed at the west end and above it is a turret containing a clock. The building consists of a nave with aisles beneath a gallery on three sides, and a chancel.

ST. JAMES, St. James's Street, was built in 1810 and rebuilt by Edmund Scott in 1875. It is of cement and flint with red brick and stone dressings in the Early English style and built on a north and south alignment. It consists of a clerestoried nave of three bays, aisles, and chancel, having sedilia at the east. A covered way leads to the porch at the south.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Carlton Hill, was designed and built by G. Cheesman in 1840 of brick, with plaster dressings on the south side where two entrance porches are formed. On the south there is a small turret. The building consists of a nave (of which the breadth is greater than the length) having a gallery on three sides, and a sanctuary.

ST. LUKE, Queen's Park Road, was built from the designs of Sir Arthur Blomfield in 1885 of flint rubble with stone dressings in a Gothic style. It has a small octagonal tower at the south-west and a porch at the west end and contains a nave of four bays, aisles, chancel, with priest's seat, and a chapel to the south of the chancel. The roofs of the aisles are lean-to and arched at each alternate bay.

ST. LUKE, Prestonville, was built in 1875 of red brick with stone dressings in a Gothic style. The architect was John Hill, but additions were made in 1882 by J. G. Gibbins. At the south-east is a tower with a square spire and a clock, and at the north-east is the vestry. It consists of a nave of four bays, aisles, and apsed chancel. The south aisle has a lean-to roof

and the north aisle an arched roof. At the west end is a gallery containing the organ and choir stalls.

ST. MARGARET, St. Margaret's Place, is of brick, the portico at the east being faced with plaster and the west end being faced with ashlar. The main part of the building was built in 1825 in the Classic style by — Clarke, and consists of a nave, aisles, and a broad gallery on three sides, with an upper gallery on the east side, and a round glazed lantern in the centre of the curved roof. In 1874 the chancel was built by J. Oldrid Scott, at the west end, in the Byzantine style; it has a round west window and four stone pillars to support the roof; to the south of it is a porch and entrance passage. There is a turret above the portico at the east.

ST. MARK, Eastern Road, was built in 1849 in the Early English style. The east end is of rough-surfaced stone and the west end is cement-faced and has a tower with spire and with a porch formed at its base. The building consists of a nave with aisles under one roof, supported by iron pillars, chancel, south transept, and a wooden gallery at the west end of the nave. There is a tablet to the first Marquis of Bristol who gave the site of the church and bore part of the expense of its erection.

ST. MARTIN, Lewes Road, was built from the design of Somers Clarke, in 1875, of brick with sparse stone dressings in the Early English style and consists of a clerestoried nave of six bays with a passage-way below the windows, aisles, chancel, and a chapel to the south of it. The nave is raised at the west to form a baptistry, and the panels of the roof are painted with the arms of Colonial and American sees which have sprung from Canterbury. There is a bell-gable on the roof, containing one bell.

ST. MARY, St. James's Street, was built, from the designs of Sir William Emerson, in 1877–9 on the site of a chapel built in 1827.⁵ It is of red brick with red stone dressings, in the French Gothic style, and is built on a north and south alignment. It consists of a nave of three bays, apsed and raised at the south end to form a baptistry, aisles, apsidal chancel and transepts, a chapel being formed in the east transept by wooden screens. There are two porches at the south end.

ST. MARY AND ST. MARY MAGDALENE, Bread Street, was built in 1862, from the designs of G. F. Bodley, of brick on a north and south alignment. It is a plain building with a wooden roof supported on wooden pillars and consists of a nave, aisles the same length as the nave, and a sanctuary at the south end. The organ is at the south end of the east aisle and the remainder of the aisle is used as a chapel. There are porches at the corners of the north end. The church is unconsecrated.

ST. MATTHEW, Sutherland Road, was built, from the designs of John Norton, in 1881–3 of split flint with stone dressings in a Gothic style. There is a tower without spire at the south-west. Internally it is of red brick and consists of a clerestoried nave of five bays, aisles, and chancel of two bays. To the south of the chancel is the organ and to the north a chapel is formed with curtains.

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, Victoria Road, is of red brick with stone dressings, in the Gothic style. The original church, designed by G. F. Bodley in 1861, now forms the south aisle of the building, designed by W. Burges, added in 1895, which consists of a clerestoried nave of four bays with triforium, chancel, and north aisle. At the west end of the nave

⁵ This chapel had 'a remarkably grand portico of four fluted columns': Parry, *Coast of Sussex*, 109.

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a pillar supports a stone organ-gallery. The original church, which is used as a chapel, has a 15th-century Flemish triptych of carved and painted wood, and a south aisle at the east of which is a small chapel; several of the windows are by William Morris. There is a west porch, a vestry at the north-east, and a small spire on the original church.

ST. PAUL, West Street, was built, from the designs of R. C. Carpenter, in 1848 of split flint with stone dressings, in the Decorated style. A covered way along the south leads to the west porch. The church consists of a nave of six bays, aisles, and chancel separated from the nave by a painted wooden screen. At the north-east is a porch formed at the base of a tower with pinnacles and spire containing eight bells.

ST. STEPHEN, Montpelier Place, was built in 1851, and restored in 1889 and 1908. It is cement-faced and built on a north and south alignment and consists of a porch and turret at the south, and a plain rectangular nave from which the sanctuary is raised off. The organ is in a recess on the east side. This church was built of the materials of, and to the same design as, the old royal chapel which, before its consecration in 1822, was used as a ball-room and was near Castle Square.

ST. WINIFRED, Elm Grove, was built by Slater and Carpenter in 1933. It is of brick on a north and south alignment and consists of a nave with processional paths to the east and west, sanctuary with a chapel to the west and a small one to the east, and a gallery containing the organ at the south. The south end of the nave is raised. There is a porch at the west and at the south-west, and a tower with a tiled roof at the north.

A church is mentioned in 1086, *ADVOWSON* when it belonged to the manor held by William de Wateville.⁶ The advowson passed with the manor to Ralph de Chesney, whose son Ralph granted it to the Priory of St. Pancras, Lewes.⁷ His grant was confirmed by his overlord William (II) de Warenne c. 1093.⁸ The advowson was held by the priory until 1537, when the Prior surrendered it to Henry VIII,⁹ who granted it to Thomas Cromwell,¹⁰ and after his fall, to Anne of Cleves.¹¹ On her death in 1557 it reverted to the Crown. In 1615 James I granted the advowson of the vicarage to Samuel Harsnet, Bishop of Chichester.¹² The bishops presented, except during the Commonwealth,¹³ until 1662.¹⁴ The Archdeacon of Lewes presented in 1681, and in 1700 the advowson had lapsed to the Crown.¹⁵ The king presented from 1744 to 1825,¹⁶ but the bishop had recovered the advowson before 1835¹⁷ and is now the patron of Brighton parish church.

The rectorial tithes, retained by the priory, were valued in 1291 at £20 a year.¹⁸ Owing to the encroachment of the sea, their value had decreased by 40s. in 1340.¹⁹ The rectory was granted with the advowson

to Thomas Cromwell and Anne of Cleves, but in 1561 Queen Elizabeth granted it separately to William Barlow, Bishop of Chichester.²⁰ The rectory continued to be leased, and in 1650, though held on a lease for £20 a year by Henry Jenner, it was valued at £100 a year.²¹ In 1704, William Scrase and Walter Rose had a lease for their lives.²² Sometime before 1744 it was leased to Thomas Friend,²³ and his successors the Kemps had the lease of it until 1800, when the rectory was sold by the bishop to Thomas Kemp.²⁴ His son Thomas Read Kemp sold it in 1852 to Thomas Attree.²⁵ In 1872, the trustees under his will sold it to Somers Clarke, who gave it in 1893 to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in augmentation of the vicarage.²⁶ A vicarage was first instituted early in the 13th century, but the agreement was made between Master R. de Kant, the rector, and his vicar, John de Brithelmeston, and the priory was not a party to it. The vicar was assigned for his life a moiety of the tithes and all the offerings and oblations at the altar. From this he was to pay to the rector an annual pension of 10 marks and 2,000 herrings at Candlemas.²⁷ This arrangement was temporary and a long dispute ensued between the bishop and priory, which was only ended by special arbitration in 1252. The monks, on the death or resignation of the existing rector, were to have the right of presentation to the vicarage, to which they were to assign a stipend of 10 marks a year from the altar offerings and the small tithes, which included, *inter alia*, tithes from the fisheries and mills. The vicar was to pay certain dues and the rest of the profits of the church were appropriated to the use of the priory for alms to the poor and hospitality to pilgrims.²⁸ In 1291 the vicarage was valued at £5²⁹ and in 1535 at £20 2s. 1½d.³⁰ In 1580, the vicar received half of a share, paid by each Brighton fishing-boat, on returning to port,³¹ and this was still paid in 1730.³² The stipend was inadequate, and during the Commonwealth, in 1656, the Commissioners for the maintenance of ministers granted £20 a year to the vicar, as Brighton 'is an important market town'.³³ Their scheme for uniting the livings of Brighton and Ovingdean did not take effect.³⁴ In 1730, certain gentlemen subscribed £50 a year to increase the stipend on condition that the vicar taught fifty poor boys of the town to read and write.³⁵ In 1744, the new vicar Mr. Michell was appointed to both the vicarage of Brighton and the rectory of West Blatchington and the two livings have been held together ever since. He was a scholar and writer of some eminence and the Duke of Wellington was for a short time one of his pupils.³⁶

In 1252 a suitable house was to be provided for the vicar.³⁷ Its site is unknown, but at the end of the 16th century the disused chapel of St. Bartholomew became the vicarage.³⁸ There was a garden attached to it; the gateway had been apparently the entrance to the chapel.³⁹ The house was pulled down in 1790 and a

⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 438a.

⁷ *Mon. Ang.* v, 3.

⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii, 40.

⁹ Feet of F. Div. Co. Mich. 29 Hen. VIII.

¹⁰ *L. and P. Hen. VIII.* xiii, g. 384 (76).

¹¹ *Ibid.* xvi, g. 503 (32).

¹² *Pat. R.* 2067.

¹³ *Brighton Parish Registers*, 207, 332.

¹⁴ *Instit. Bks. (P.R.O.)*, 1616, 1622, 1662.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ *Ibid.* 1744, 1824, 1825 (in 1804 Henry Cowthorpe Campion presented).

¹⁷ Samuel Lewis, *Topography of England and Wales* (3rd ed.), i.

¹⁸ *Tax. P. Nich. (Rec. Com.)*, 136.

¹⁹ *Inquis. Nonar. (Rec. Com.)*, 385.

²⁰ *Pat. R.* 964.

²¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* x, 23.

²² Feet of F. Suss. Mich. 3 Anne.

²³ J. G. Bishop, op. cit. 37 (Poor Rate Book, 1744-61).

²⁴ *Add. MS.* 39470, fol. 63.

²⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lviii, 170.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xl, 47-8.

²⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxviii, 160-1.

²⁹ *Tax. P. Nich. (Rec. Com.)*, 136.

³⁰ *Valor Eccles. (Rec. Com.)*, i, 332.

³¹ *Add. MS.* 5700, fol. 71.

³² *Magna Britannia* (1730), v, 511.

³³ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1656-7, p. 185.

³⁴ *Ibid.* 369.

³⁵ *Magna Britannia*, v, 511.

³⁶ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 145; *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

³⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxviii, 160-1.

³⁸ *Brighton and Hove Archaeologist*, iii, 93, 118.

³⁹ *Ibid.* 120.

new vicarage built.⁴⁰ In 1835, when the building of Prince Albert Street was planned by Mr. Isaac Bass, the vicarage and garden were exchanged for a large piece of land in Montpelier Row, and a new vicarage built at the expense of Mr. Bass.⁴¹

The names of two fraternities in the parish church have survived: the fraternity of the Holy Trinity and St. George is mentioned in 1487, when John Blake left the reversion of a house to the use of the brethren,⁴² and in 1507 Thomas Ylgate bequeathed 14s. 4d. to the fraternity of St. George.⁴³

In the 17th century a lectureship was maintained at the expense of the parish.⁴⁴

A second church or chapel had been built at Brighton before 1147, when King Stephen confirmed the possessions of the Priory of Lewes.⁴⁵ It is called the chapel of St. Bartholomew, c. 1185, in a charter of Bishop Seffrid II (1180–1204) and it was then apparently a parochial chapel.⁴⁶ Its foundation may perhaps be attributed to one of the lords of the manor of Brighton-Lewes, as it was endowed with some 2½ acres of land, later known as 'the Bartholomews', belonging to this manor and lying between East Street and Black Lion Street.⁴⁷ The chapel was in ruins in 1549,⁴⁸ when it and its lands, confiscated at the suppression of the chantries in 1547, were sold to William Warde.⁴⁹ They rapidly changed hands, passing to John Brown, Edward Johnson, and Edmund Blakborne before May 1551.⁵⁰ Blakborne was a mercer of Brighton. He was succeeded by his brother Roger, of Yorkshire, who in 1576 sold the property to John Codwell and Myles Tayllor of South-over, servants of Lord Buckhurst, the lord of one moiety of Brighton-Lewes.⁵¹ The sale included the ruined chapel, with the buildings, lands, and common rights belonging to it. In 1589 Tayllor sold his share to Codwell.⁵² Meanwhile William Midwinter, who was apparently a lessee⁵³ but claimed to hold it in fee simple, sold it in 1583 to the constable and three churchwardens of Brighton 'to the only use behoofe profit and commoditie of the whole bodye or towneshippe' for the maintenance of the church, the defences, and other public uses.⁵⁴ The weakness of his title seems to have been discovered, and in 1592 John Codwell sold the Bartholomews to John Friend and nineteen other inhabitants of Brighton.⁵⁵ In 1665 the house and garden had been assigned for the vicarage, while the rest of the

land, still described as pasture, was held by the churchwardens at a rent of 3d. a year.⁵⁶ The land has been used as the site of various public buildings such as the old Workhouse, the Market, and the Town Hall.

In the 18th century St. Nicholas' Church became too small for the growing population, and there was no second church in the parish until 1793, when the Chapel Royal was built.⁵⁷ It was quickly followed by further church building. In 1824 the new church of St. Peter was begun on the Level, to the north of the Steine.⁵⁸ In that year the Rev. Henry Wagner began a long incumbency which lasted till 1870. A vigorous churchman, he obtained great influence in the town, both through the Vestry and as an *ex-officio* town commissioner.⁵⁹ He and his family used much of their considerable wealth in church building, but the churches serving new urban districts in the parish of St. Nicholas were chapels of ease. In 1873 the Rev. J. Hannah reorganized this system. He made St. Peter's church the parish church instead of St. Nicholas and formed the chapels into separate parish churches.⁶⁰

At the present time there are twenty-four churches within the old parish of Brighton. Of these, the vicar of Brighton has the patronage of the vicarages of All Saints, All Souls, Christ Church, St. Anne, St. James, St. John, St. Martin, and St. Michael; and of the perpetual curacies of Holy Trinity, St. Margaret, and St. Mary Magdalene. The Bishop of Chichester is patron of the vicarages of St. Nicholas, St. Peter, and St. Luke, and presents alternately with the Crown to St. Wilfred. The perpetual curacy of St. George's Chapel is in the hands of the Church Patronage Society, and the churches of the Annunciation, St. Bartholomew, St. Mark, St. Mary, St. Matthew, and St. Paul are in the hands of trustees.

A Presbyterian meeting was founded in 1688, and a meeting-house (afterwards Independent) was built in 1698; it was enlarged in 1810 and 1825, and is now Elim Tabernacle.⁶¹ In 1761 there were also meeting-houses belonging to the Friends and the Anabaptists.⁶² Lady Huntingdon built a chapel adjoining her house in North Street in 1761⁶³ and the first Roman Catholic church was built in High Street in 1799.⁶⁴ The Jews, who seem to have been frequent visitors as early as 1802,⁶⁵ had a Synagogue before 1833,⁶⁶ and many other forms of religion are sufficiently represented.

⁴⁰ Ibid. The house was in very bad condition in 1724: Add. MS. 39470, fol. 68.

⁴¹ *Brighton and Hove Arch.* iii, 120.

⁴² P.C.C. 3 Milles.

⁴³ P.C.C. 21 Adeane.

⁴⁴ Second Custumal of Brighton in [Dunvan], op. cit. 516, 517.

⁴⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xl, 49.

⁴⁶ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* v, 14.

⁴⁷ Godwyn's Rental; *Brighton and Hove Arch.* iii, 118.

⁴⁸ *Cal. Pat. Edw. VI*, ii, 326.

⁴⁹ Ibid. Deeds relating to the Bartholomews are in possession of the Brighton Corporation and printed in *Brighton and Hove Arch.* iii, 83–100.

⁵⁰ Ibid. 83–6.

⁵¹ Ibid. 90–2.

⁵² Ibid. 97.

⁵³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxvi, 154.

⁵⁴ *Brighton and Hove Arch.* iii, 93.

⁵⁵ Ibid. 99.

⁵⁶ Goodwyn's Rental.

⁵⁷ [Dunvan], op. cit. 543.

⁵⁸ E. W. Brayley, op. cit. 66.

⁵⁹ W. H. Attwick, op. cit. 126.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ [Dunvan], op. cit. 545; Harrison and North, *Old Brighton*, 82.

⁶² Ibid.; Relhan, op. cit. 16.

⁶³ *The Life and Times of Selina, Countess of Huntingdon* (1839), i, 314; Harrison and North, op. cit. 135–6.

⁶⁴ Erridge, op. cit. 370.

⁶⁵ Parry, *Coast of Sussex*, 73.

⁶⁶ Ibid. 111. The present synagogue was built in 1874: *ex inf.* J. S. North.

THE HUNDRED OF PRESTON

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

HOVE PRESTON

AT the time of the Domesday Survey there was a hundred of Preston¹ which appears to have included Patcham and Preston.² This hundred was later merged in Whalesbone Hundred, of which the Bishop of Chichester held one quarter (i.e. Hove and Preston) in 1278,³ and so remained until 1540.⁴ In 1543-4 the vills of Hove and Preston were separately assessed outside any hundred,⁵ but in 1544-5 they formed what was described as the Hundred of Preston and Hove.⁶ This appeared as the Hundred of Preston in 1560⁷ and 1576.⁸ In 1587 the two vills were included in Whalesbone Hundred,⁹ but in 1621,¹⁰ 1622, and 1625 they again formed a separate hundred under their joint names.¹¹ They were described as a half-hundred in 1628, 1642, and April 1664.¹² In the assessments for the Hearth Tax in September 1664 and 1665 they were once more reckoned as a whole separate hundred¹³ as they were also in 1833.¹⁴

¹ Prestetune (xi cent.).

² *V.C.H. Suss. i*, 391*a*, 436*a*. Cf. Horsfield, *Suss. i*, 173.

³ Assize R. 921, m. 14.

⁴ Subsidy R. 190/175 (32 Hen. VIII).

⁵ *Ibid.* 190/193.

⁶ *Ibid.* 190/192.

⁷ *Ibid.* 190/267.

⁸ *Ibid.* 190/299. In 1563 Preston and 'Ove' appeared under the heading of 'Part of the Hundred of the Manhood': *ibid.* 190/274; but in 1617 the claim of the bishop's bailiff that these vills were members of the Manhood was rejected and they were said to constitute a separate half-hundred: *Tr. of Rec. Misc. Bks.*, vol. 157, fo. 170.

⁹ Subs. R. 190/309.

¹⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 79 (from Subs. R. 19 Jas. I in possession of W. S. Ellis).

¹¹ Subs. R. 190/342; 191/372.

¹² *Ibid.* 191/382, 191/390, 191/409. No such half-hundred is mentioned in a survey of 1651, nor are Preston and Hove boroughs found anywhere there: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xviii, 231-6.

¹³ Subs. R. 258/15, 258/18.

¹⁴ Horsfield, *Suss. i*, 103. In 1834 the area of the hundred was about 1,840 acres: *ibid.* 165.

PRESTON HUNDRED

THE BOROUGH OF HOVE

La Houue, Huua (xiii cent.); Hova (xvii cent.).

The municipal borough of Hove now contains 3,953 acres, but the old parish of Hove only contained

778 acres.¹ It lay along the coast to the west of Brighton beyond the end of the west cliff, and reached northwards to the lower slopes of the Downs. The low-lying land is clay, changing to chalk in the northern part of the parish. The village of Hove lay at the western end of the parish and the roads connecting it with Brighton and Portslade were little more than lanes, until the development of Hove into a watering-place began in the second quarter of the 19th century.

The so-called Manor House² stood on the east side of Hove Street, a short quarter of a mile to the south-west of the old parish church. It was a small building of 18th-century date. Its chief architectural feature was a domed cupola supported by slender columns, on the summit of the roof, the whole probably designed as a bell-cote. The building was demolished in 1936, and a large block of flats now covers the site.

The coombe between the Hove spur and that on which the older part of Brighton stands was known as Goldstone Bottom, and part of it is now preserved as a public park. Within this is a large block of sarsen stone known as the 'Goldstone'.³ The stones which now surround it have been brought from elsewhere in modern times. A Bronze Age barrow used to stand in what was known as Coney-burrow Field at the eastern boundary of Hove. It was excavated in 1856,⁴ when an oak coffin was found containing, among other objects, a cup of red amber of unusual beauty. The barrow was destroyed in the following year, and its site is now the garden of 13 Palmeira Avenue.

Repeated inundations of the sea brought about the ruin of the medieval village;⁵ 150 acres were washed away between 1291 and 1340,⁶ probably including much of the hamlet of Bishop's Wick at the eastern end of the parish, where a revised rental had to be drawn up in 1335 owing to damage done by the sea and only 14 tenants appear a few years later.⁷ Further losses by the encroachment of the sea occurred during the later 17th century,⁸ probably after a period of immunity, since in 1617 many cottages, shops, and warehouses for the fishing trade were built on the shore near Brighton, some even on the beach itself.⁹ The

population, however, was always poor, until the 19th century, only four houses being assessed for the Hearth Tax in 1665.¹⁰

In 1801 the population of Hove was only 101, but fifty years later it was over 4,000, owing to the westward building development of Brighton. Adelaide Crescent and Palmeira Square were laid out about this time. Shortly afterwards was founded, east of the parish church, the new colony of Cliftonville, consisting of the St. Aubyns Villas and the three roads to the east, leading from the sea to the new church of Holy Trinity.

In 1840 the railway to Brighton was opened, connexion with London being attained the following year. The parish is now covered with houses, and the estimated population of the borough in 1937 was 57,160.

With its development as a watering-place, many changes in its government have taken place. The first step towards self-government was the appointment of the Hove Commissioners, elected on a small franchise, for the same purposes as the Commissioners at Brighton (q.v.). In 1832 Brighton and Hove were formed into one Parliamentary Borough.¹¹ In 1893 the parish of Aldrington was joined to that of Hove for local government purposes,¹² and in 1898 the Municipal Borough of Hove received its royal charter. In 1927 the parishes of Preston Rural and Hangleton and parts of West Blatchington and Patcham were added to the borough of Hove.¹³ The corporation consists of a mayor, 10 aldermen, and 30 councillors, elected from 10 wards.

The Town Hall was built in 1882. The Public Library, established in 1891, was rebuilt in 1908 and is also a repository for county manorial documents, with a special room given by the late Viscountess Wolsley. The St. Anne's Well Gardens on part of the Upwick estate belong to the Corporation. The well in the 18th century was used as a spa by Dr. Russell of Brighton (q.v.). The Sussex County Cricket ground is in the borough, as well as a public recreation ground.

At the time of the Domesday Survey *MANORS* Hove was presumably included in Preston (q.v.) The connexion of this land with Preston is shown by allusions in the 13th-century custumal of Preston to the bishop's ploughs in Hove and to the fact that the men of the canons of Hove were obliged to reap 15 acres of barley, oats, and wheat by way of tithe on the bishop's manor of Preston.¹⁴ By 1291 two prebends had been created, possibly by Bishop Richard le Poor (1214-17),¹⁵ one called Hova Villa and the other Hova Ecclesia.¹⁶ The church of Bolney and land in Bolney was attached to the prebend



BOROUGH OF HOVE. Tierced in pale: 1. Or a saltire azure voided argent; 2. Gules two pairs of leg-irons interlaced argent; 3. Chequy or and azure three martlets or, all in a border ermine charged with six martlets or.

¹ *East Suss. C.C. Year Bk.* 1912-13.

² *Country Life*, xliii, 114. It was not the manor-house, which was presumably 'the Prebend House', slightly farther north adjoining the medieval tithe-barn, now destroyed: Harrison and North, *Old Brighton, Hove, and Preston*, 192-5.

³ *Suss. County Mag.* vi, 725-30. The name 'Goldstone field' occurs in 1617: *Treas. of Rec. Misc. Bks.*, vol. 157, fo. 166.

⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 119; *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 317-18.

⁵ During the 14th century Hove is

found assessed with neighbouring villis to provide ships or mariners for the king's service, or funds for the defence of the coast: e.g. *Cal. Pat.* 1301-7, p. 75; *ibid.* 1324-7, p. 7; *ibid.* 1381-5, p. 588.

⁶ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 358.

⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxi, 83.

⁸ Preston MSS., Letters of Capt. Cheynell.

⁹ *Treas. of Rec. Misc. Bks.*, vol. clvii, fol. 170.

¹⁰ Subsidy R. 258/18.

¹¹ Stat. 2 and 3 Will. IV, c. 46.

¹² Local Gov. Bd. Order, 30, 228.

¹³ Hove (Extension Order), 1927.

¹⁴ *Sussex Customals* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxi), 81, 82.

¹⁵ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 48. The theory that there was one original prebend of Hove, subsequently divided, is unsupported by evidence.

¹⁶ *Tax. Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), 137. They were valued respectively at £30 and £20. In the 16th century, if not earlier, the prebendary of Hova Ecclesia occupied the 16th stall on the Decani side, the prebendary of Hova Villa the 9th on the Cantoris side: *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 32-3.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

of Hova Villa,¹⁷ while the church of Hove was attached to Hova Ecclesia.¹⁸

The manor of *HOVE VILLA* and *HOVE ECCLESIA* was, apparently, not divided but was held jointly by the two prebendaries¹⁹ until 1874, when it was transferred to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.²⁰ Shortly after this it was acquired by William John Williams, a Brighton solicitor, and passed to his son Harry Montague Williams, whose executors remained lords until all the tenements had been freed.²¹

Meanwhile it appears to have been the general custom for the prebendaries to let the manor at farm. An early lessee may have been Reynold Keneward, who in 1296 paid a lay subsidy of £2 16s. from Hove, a much larger sum than any of the other inhabitants.²² These in 1340 all lived by working on the land, and no one possessed goods and chattels worth more than 16s.²³ In 1514 it was arranged that the vicar of Hove, William Atkys, should farm both the prebends, paying £10 per annum for Hova Villa and 7 marks for Hova Ecclesia²⁴, and this arrangement still seems to have been in force in 1534.²⁵ Apparently the consent of the bishop, dean, and chapter of Chichester was necessary for each lease.²⁶ The farmers also held the manorial rights and the same man farmed both prebends though he had to obtain separate leases. In 1626 Tuppen Scrase obtained the lease of Hova Villa for a term of lives from Dr. Thorne and in 1641 William Scrase had a lease of Hova Ecclesia from Dr. Goffe,²⁷ being a renewal of his tenure as Goffe had only recently been appointed.²⁸ From this time the Scrases, who had been customary tenants of the manor in the previous century and settled in the neighbourhood much earlier,²⁹ were lessees of the manor and held the court until 1702, when it passed to Tuppen's great-granddaughter Elizabeth, the wife of Nathaniel Tredcroft.³⁰ Their great-grandson Nathaniel sold his interest in the manor to William Stanford of Preston in 1808.³¹ In 1835, however, Stanford was the lessee of Hova Ecclesia only, while Hova Villa was leased to William and Charles Marshall.³²

To the north of the parish and extending into Preston (q.v.) lay the estate or reputed manor of *UPWICK* or *HIGHWICK* or *WICK*, which was held of the bishop as half a knight's fee.³³ The tenant paid a yearly rent of 4 broad arrows, which were valued at 2s. 8d. in 1617,³⁴ and owed homage and fealty,³⁵ heriot and relief to the lord of Preston. The heriot was paid for the last time in 1794,³⁶ but the same rent and relief were still paid in 1825.³⁷ Upwick probably formed part of one knight's fee held of the Bishop of Chichester

in 1166 by Simon de Pierpoint or Perpond (Petraponte) jointly with three others.³⁸ Another Simon held it in the

13th century, when his tenants had to bring all their ploughs to two boonworks at Preston. They also took their share in repairing the fences of Aldingbourne Park.³⁹ He died about 1241, his heir then being under age;⁴⁰ the custody of his land at Upwick, which was at the time mortgaged to a Jew of Norwich, fell to the bishop and was bequeathed by him in 1244 to the canons of Tortington.⁴¹ In 1256 the tenant was Sir Robert Pierpoint.⁴² A third Simon appears in 1280, when he held a court of his own for his villeins 'in Preston', which clearly represents the Upwick estate. He endeavoured to force Hildebrand Reynberd to serve as reeve, but he with fifty-three other villeins attacked Sir Simon, set fire to his house at 'Herwick', killed his falcon, and did other damage.⁴³ In 1354 Simon's lands had passed to Walter de Pierpoint, from whom Simon, son of Simon de Pierpont, tried to recover them.⁴⁴ For 200 years no tenant of Upwick can be traced, but in 1551 it was held by Thomas Smythe.⁴⁵ He died before 1559,⁴⁶ and left Wick to his wife Anne, charging it after her death with an annuity of £6 13s. 4d. to be paid to the poor of Lewes, Hove, and Buxted.⁴⁷ In that year she settled Upwick on herself for life, with remainder to Thomas Pounce and the heirs of his body.⁴⁸ She afterwards married Thomas Darbye and in 1572, with their consent, Thomas Pounce sold his interest in Upwick to Anthony Stapley of Framfield.⁴⁹ At the same time, the annuity charged on the estate was extinguished, and transferred to other manors held by Pounce. The poor of Hove received £3 6s. 8d. paid on Ash Wednesday each year.⁵⁰ The charity is now lost, though attempts were made to recover it in the 19th century. Anne died in the winter of 1585-6⁵¹ and Anthony Stapley did fealty for Upwick in 1588.⁵² On his death in 1606,⁵³ he was succeeded by his son Anthony, the Regicide (d. 1655),⁵⁴ and his grandson John. The latter was created a baronet in 1660,⁵⁵ but owing to financial straits, was forced first to mortgage the estate and then to sell it in 1700 to John Lilly, who disposed of it the next year to John Scutt, the Brighton brewer, for £1,000.⁵⁶ Scutt died in 1725 and was succeeded by his son John, who entailed the estate on his nephew Benjamin.⁵⁷ Benjamin inherited Upwick in 1744⁵⁸ and it afterwards passed to his son and grand-



PIERPOINT. Azure a chief checky or and gules.

¹⁷ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 358. In 1316 Robert de Askeby, prebendary of Hova Villa, was also parson of Bolney: *Cal. Pat.* 1313-17, p. 561; cf. Tout, *Admin. Hist.* iii, 98, 114, 115, 159; vi, 8.

¹⁸ *Inq. Non.* 357.

¹⁹ Chan. Proc. (Ser. 2), bdle. 170, no. 3; Parl. Survey, 1650, *cit.* Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 166.

²⁰ Charles Thomas-Stanford, *Wick, A Contribution to the History of Hove* (Hove, Cambridge, 1923), 44.

²¹ *Ex inf.* F. Benthams Stevens.

²² *Suss. Rec. Soc.* x, 42.

²³ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 357-8.

²⁴ Add. MS. 39352, fols. 75, 95.

²⁵ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 301.

²⁶ Chan. Proc. (ser. 2), bdle. 89, no. 32.

²⁷ Close R. 1650, no. 5.

²⁸ Add. MS. 39352, fol. 79 d.

²⁹ Chan. Proc. (Ser. 2), bdle. 170,

no. 32; Coram Rege R. 650, m. 117;

Thomas-Stanford, *op. cit.* 45.

³⁰ *Magna Britannia* (1738); Thomas-Stanford, *op. cit.* 46.

³¹ *Ibid.*

³² *Ibid.*

³³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxi, 135; Preston

MSS. Rental, 1551.

³⁴ *Ibid.*; Treas. of Rec. Misc. Bks., vol. clvii, fol. 16d.

³⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxvii, 32, 35.

³⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxx, 88.

³⁷ Preston MSS. Indenture, 1825.

³⁸ *Red Bk. of Exch.* (Rolls Ser.) i, 199; cf. Hurstpierpoint in Buttinghill Hundred and Westmeston in Streat Hundred.

³⁹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxi, 81.

⁴⁰ *Cal. Pat.* 1232-47, p. 267.

⁴¹ *Cal. Close*, 1242-7, p. 513. The name is written 'Aldwick' on the roll, but this is obviously a mistake for 'Alt' wick; cf. *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxi, 81.

⁴² *Ibid.* 39.

⁴³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxx, 89; *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 185.

⁴⁴ Thomas-Stanford, *op. cit.* 24.

⁴⁵ Preston, MSS. Rental, 1551.

⁴⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 484-5.

⁴⁷ Close R. 15 Eliz.

⁴⁸ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 484-5.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.* 487.

⁵⁰ Close R. 15 Eliz.

⁵¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxvii, 32.

⁵² *Ibid.* 33.

⁵³ *Ibid.* xxxiii, 65.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*; Thomas-Stanford, *op. cit.* 30; Treas. of Rec. Misc. Bks., vol. clvii, fol. 16d.

⁵⁵ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iii, 97-8.

⁵⁶ Thomas-Stanford, *op. cit.* 33; Preston MSS. Rental, 1713.

⁵⁷ Thomas-Stanford, *op. cit.* 37.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

son, both named Thomas.⁵⁹ The former had barred the entail, so that his son, the Rev. Thomas Scutt, was able to sell the estate and begin its development as a building site.⁶⁰ Before 1825 he had sold 24 acres, now the site of Brunswick Square, and in that year the boundaries of the estate were defined by an agreement made between him and William Stanford, the lord of both Preston and Hove manors. A map of the estate shows that Upwick was a long and narrow strip of land, running north and south with Wick House in its centre,⁶¹ presumably still on the same site as Simon de Pierpont's house in 1280. In 1830 Scutt sold the remainder of the estate to Mr. (afterwards Sir) Isaac Lyon Goldsmid,⁶² by whose descendants it was gradually sold for building.



GOLDSMID. *Party saltire-wise erminois and ermine a chief gules with a gold-finch proper between two roses or therein.*

The old parish church of *ST. AN-CHURCHES DREW* stands a furlong to the east of Hove Street, midway between the old churches of Aldrington and Brighton, all three having apparently been at one time joined by a road, the modern Church Road.

The church consisted of a 13th-century nave of five bays with aisles on both sides, a chancel, and a west tower. This comparatively large building seems to have gradually fallen into disrepair with the decay of the village, and by 1724 the chancel had almost disappeared and the tower was in a very ruinous condition.⁶³ Sunday services were then only held there once in three weeks in summer and once a month in winter, and communion was celebrated at Preston.⁶⁴ Soon after this the aisles became unroofed, and by the end of the century the church was reduced to the four eastern bays of the nave, the arches of which were blocked up, and a bell-cote constructed over the east gable to take the bells from the fallen tower.⁶⁵ The materials from this were taken to build a sham ruin in Goodwood Park. In 1836 the whole was entirely rebuilt except for the nave arcades.

The church consists to-day of a nave of five bays with aisles to north and south, a south porch and western tower, and a chancel with north vestry. The exterior of the church shows flint-work with pseudo-Norman dressings in Roman cement. The arcades of the nave are supported on each side by four circular columns with rich stiff-leaf ornament on the bells and two heavy rolls, with a scotia between them, as abacus. The bases are water-holding. The arches have an inner order with large pointed rolls, very deeply quirked, to the arrises. The western arches are restored, but the rest of the arcades seem to be original work. No old monuments remain.

There is one bell, bearing the initials T.H. and ascribed to the 14th century.⁶⁶ The plate is modern.⁶⁷

The registers date from 1538, and are now in the church of All Saints, since 1892 the parish church of Hove.⁶⁸

ALL SAINTS was constituted the parish church in

1892. It was designed by J. L. Pearson and the nave was begun in 1889, consecrated in 1891, and the chancel, transepts, and chapel added in 1901. The stone reredos and sedilia on both sides of the chancel were added in 1908. The base of the tower at the south-west and the western porch were built in 1924. The church is of Sussex sandstone ashlar, with an oak roof in the Early Decorated style, and consists of a nave of five bays, aisles, transepts, chancel, apsidal chapel at the south-east connected to the vestry at the north-east by a passage behind the altar, and a small chapel beneath the organ also at the north-east. There is a turret on either corner of the east end, and a good modern window in the wall of the tower.

EMMANUEL, Lansdowne Road, is an unconsecrated proprietary chapel built in 1868 of brick with a cement facing and a lead roof. It consists of a clerestoried nave, aisles, transepts containing galleries, a small chancel at the west, with the pulpit in the middle, and a gallery at the east holding the organ.

HOLY TRINITY, Eaton Road, designed by Mr. Woodman, was built in 1864 of red brick with stone dressings in an Italian Gothic style. There is a battlemented tower on the south with a round stair-turret in its west wall and with an open porch at its base. The building consists of a nave of four bays with a wooden gallery at the west, aisles, and apsidal chancel with the vestry to the south and the organ-chamber to the north.

ST. AGNES, Fonthill Road, was built in 1913 (the aisle and porches being added in 1930) and is of red brick with stone dressings. It is uncompleted and consists of a nave over a hall, south aisle, of which the east end is divided off as a vestry and the west end is used as a chapel, and two south porches.

ST. ANDREW, Waterloo Street, was built in 1828 from the designs of Sir Charles Barry, the chancel being added in 1882, and is of brick, with cement facing at the west, in a Romanesque style. It consists of a west porch and turret with clock, nave, wide chancel with a dome in the middle supported by four arches, the altar being in a small apse, and western gallery. The communion plate is of 1828, except for a silver alms-dish of 1755.⁶⁹

ST. BARNABAS, Sackville Road, was built from the designs of J. L. Pearson in 1883 of split flint with red brick and stone dressings in an early-Gothic style. The interior is of whitewashed brick, and it consists of a nave of four bays with blind triforium arches, aisles, transepts (the organ being in the north transept), apsidal chancel divided from the nave by a light metal screen and having a wooden triptych and panelling, chapel at the south-east, vestry at the north-east, and porch at the north-west. There is a small spire above the crossing.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, Church Road, was built by W. G. and E. Habershon in 1852 of split flint with stone dressings in the Early Decorated style. It consists of a clerestoried nave of four bays with hammer-beam roof resting on carved stone corbels, aisles, lofty transepts, with a choir gallery in the south transept, small chancel, chapel at the south-east, and western porch with three entrances. There is a tower with a clock and stone spire at the north-east and with a porch

⁵⁹ Ibid. 38.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ Preston MSS., Indenture, 1825.

⁶² Thomas-Stanford, op. cit. 38.

⁶³ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 67.

⁶⁴ Add. MS. 39343, fol. 290.

⁶⁵ There are a number of drawings remaining of the church at this period. They vary considerably in their accuracy. Some show only three and a half bays in use. The bell-cote is shown on either gable.

⁶⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 143.

⁶⁷ Ibid. iv, 138.

⁶⁸ The registers from 1539 to 1812 have been printed by E. F. Salmon (1912).

⁶⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* iv, 141.

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on the north side of its base, and a hall along the south side of the church.

ST. PATRICK, Cambridge Road, designed by H. Kendall, was built in 1858 as a proprietary chapel and was then called St. James; it was consecrated in 1885. It is built, on a north and south alignment, of stone rubble with ashlar dressings in the Early Decorated style and consists of a clerestoried nave of six bays with a hammer-beam roof, aisles, east transept, chancel with clerestory windows on the west, chapel at the north-west, and porch at the south. There is the base of an unfinished tower to the north of the transept. In addition to modern communion-plate there is a fine silver alms-dish of Edinburgh make (c. 1635) originally given to the church of Duffus (Elgin) by John Guthrie.⁷⁰

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE, Davigdor Road, was built by Messrs. Clayton and Black in 1914 of red brick with stone dressings and it was consecrated in 1924. It is uncompleted and consists of a nave of five bays, north and south processional paths and path behind altar, sanctuary, and wooden gallery at the west. In the basement are the vestries and a hall which were built in 1901.

The prebendaries of Hova Ecclesia *ADVOWSON* were the rectors and also the patrons of the vicarage.⁷¹ A vicarage was instituted before 1291, when it was valued at £5,⁷² and in 1340 the vicar was receiving £4 16s. a year,

derived from the oblations at the church, tithes of fish, herrings, cattle, and the tithes of corn from the Croft.⁷³ In 1531 the vicarage was united with that of Preston⁷⁴ (q.v.) and an annual rent of £4 was payable from the prebend of Hova Ecclesia to the vicar of Preston.⁷⁵

With the growth of Hove into a watering-place in the second quarter of the 19th century new churches were built, and in 1879 the vicarages of Hove and Preston were separated.⁷⁶ Although St. Andrews was for a century in a ruinous condition, it remained the parish church of Hove until 1892, when it became a chapel of ease to All Saints.

In 1419 there was a *CHANTRY* in the parish church served by a priest, whose salary was at least 7 marks a year, but there is no other record of the chantry.⁷⁷

The old ecclesiastical parish of Hove has been subdivided into the following parishes: All Saints, now the parish church, in the patronage of the Bishop of Chichester; Holy Trinity, 1864, a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the bishop; St. Agnes was in 1927 constituted a vicarage in the patronage of the bishop; St. Andrew, Waterloo Street, a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the vicar of Hove; St. Barnabas (1883), a vicarage in the patronage of the vicar; St. John the Baptist (1854), a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the vicar; St. Patrick, a vicarage since 1885 in the patronage of the bishop; St. Thomas the Apostle (1924), a vicarage in the patronage of the bishop.

PRESTON

Prestetone (xi cent.); Bissshopes Preston (xiii cent.).

The mediæval parish of Preston formed a rectangle, 2 miles long from east to west and rather less than a mile wide, lying immediately to the north of the parishes of Hove and Brighton, and sending a long tongue eastwards along the boundary of the latter to the summit of the Race Hill. The original area was about 1,300 acres, now divided between the Boroughs of Brighton and Hove. The old parish straddled a section of the Wellesbourne valley and climbed the slopes of Hollingbury Hill to about the 300 ft. contour. Originally comprising fertile arable land and good sheep-pasture, the parish is to-day covered by houses; but the Park and gardens of Preston Manor and the many trees still standing among the houses bear witness to its former condition.

In 1877 a Roman villa was found in the angle between Preston Road, Springfield Road, and Stanford Avenue.¹ Where the old way, known as the Drove Road, over Newmarket Hill from Lewes crossed the Wellesbourne on its way towards West Blatchington and Portslade, a settlement appears to have been made in mediæval times on the right bank of the stream. The Drove is represented by Middle Street, with North and South Streets to either side of it. The few old cottages which remain of the village of Preston are hereabouts. On the opposite side of the Wellesbourne is the church and the manor-house, Preston Manor, now the Thomas-Stanford Museum. The ground falls rapidly from east to west, so that the present main floor of the house is raised over a semi-basement, which was the earlier main floor and contains the shell of the mediæval

manor-house, now represented by the central portion of the front range of rooms. The building was about 50 ft. long and half as wide, with walls a little over 2 ft. thick, and contained two rooms. The western of these, the Hall, was 27 ft. long and 21 ft. wide, and the smaller room was 18 by 21 ft.² This form of plan is typical of the 13th century. At Preston the hall is raised over a cellar, having another to the south in which can be seen the lower part of a mediæval chimney-stack belonging to the hall above. Tooling of the 14th century can be seen on some of the ashlar, most of which, however, is covered with whitewash. The two rooms are connected by a round-headed doorway with plain chamfered head and jambs and no imposts. Another similar but taller doorway has been moved to the west end of the passage leading from the western end of the hall. Both these doorways may be of 13th-century origin, but the smaller has very small onion-stops, of late-16th-century character, at the bottom of the chamfered jambs, which may, however, have been recut and now certainly have a rebate for a door on the internal faces. Both doorways are much worn, and are thickly covered with whitewash. The upper end of the hall is now cut off by a passage. Neither fire-place shows any signs of antiquity, nor do any old windows remain.

The simple two-roomed manor-house seems to have remained unaltered in its general arrangements until the latter part of the 16th century, when some attempt was made to embellish it architecturally. The remains of two doorways exist, north of the axis, in the two end walls of the mediæval building. They were both

⁷⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* iv, 140.

⁷¹ Close R. 1650, no. 5; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* iv, 14.

⁷² *Tax. Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), 135.

⁷³ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 357.

⁷⁴ Add. MS. 39343, fol. 290.

⁷⁵ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 301.

⁷⁶ Add. MS. 39343, fol. 295.

⁷⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxvi, 140.

¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* iii, 23.

² This room is now called 'the Foal', perhaps through a misreading of 'solar'.



HOVE: THE OLD CHURCH, 1804
(from a drawing by Russell Skinner in the British Museum)



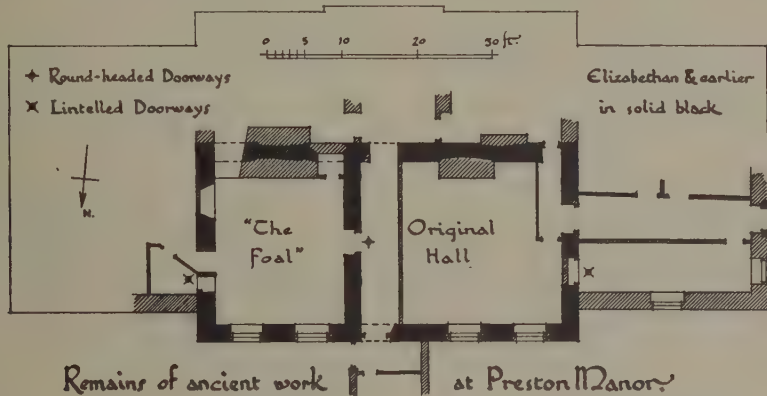
PRESTON CHURCH: PAINTINGS FORMERLY ON NORTH WALL OF NAVE

external doors, and very sophisticated in design, but of clumsy execution, with Classical architraves, and pilasters on either side with a frieze and cornice. The latter, however, has entirely disappeared from both doors. The exterior of the hall doorway remains in a store-room and the north half of that opposite is to be seen in the corner of a bathroom. In an old wall dividing the gardens, south of the house, from the park, is a doorway of similar design but without the pilasters. It may have been removed from the house, and was clearly erected in its present position at the same time as the wall in which it now appears.

Despite this late-Tudor restoration, the medieval manor-house does not seem to have grown outside its original limits until 1738, which date is carved on a stone in the basement and coupled with the signature 'Thos. Western'. At this period a range of rooms was

stands a little farther north on the main road. To the west of the road there is a station on the main Brighton line of the Southern Railway. With the growing urbanization of the parish many changes in its government have taken place. Under the Parliamentary Boundary Act of 1868, Preston was included in the parliamentary borough of Brighton and Hove. In 1873 under the Brighton Borough Extension Act the larger portion of it was included in the municipal borough. Finally, in 1927, the remaining portion (west of Dyke Road) which had been known since 1894 as Preston Rural was added to the municipal borough of Hove.

Francis Cheynell (1608-65), the Presbyterian Divine and writer, who under the Commonwealth became President of St. John's College, Oxford, and 'Arch-Visitor' of the University, retired after the Restoration to Preston and died there in 1665.⁴ Dr. James Douglas



built against the south side of the old building, and the stacks enlarged to provide fire-places to them. The rooms east and west of this central block were probably built at the same time, and the old front wall completely re-designed, the original hall-doorway being possibly moved at this time to its position in the west wall of the new building. At the end of the 18th century the house was redecorated in the style of the Adams, and more recently still, it has been extended towards the west. The exterior of the building is now covered with stucco. The gardens are open to the public, and much of the park is now a public open space.

A little to the east of the house is the well, covered by an 18th-century flint-built well-house, which has been raised, the lower part having stone quoins and the upper brick. There are arched recesses in the sides of this curious building, and brick pinnacles surmount the wall-tops. Within is a disused early-19th-century iron horse-pump with twin cylinders, worked by a large crown-wheel attached to a capstan turned by a horse. At the east side of the well-house is attached a two-storied building of similar character, generally supposed to be a pigeon-house,³ but more probably a stable for the well-horse, as the only access to the well-house is through the eastern annexe.

The road from Brighton to Patcham and Reigate runs in a north-westerly direction through the little village near the manor-house and the old church of St. Peter. The parish church of St. John the Evangelist

(1753-1819), the author of *Nenia Britannica* (1793) in which he published the results of his antiquarian discoveries, in particular as to Anglo-Saxon remains, was curate of Preston from 1810 and died there in 1819. He was also an artist of some repute and illustrated both the *Nenia* and an earlier book of travels, published in 1782.⁵

The manor of PRESTON or BISHOPS MANOR PRESTON both before and after the Norman Conquest belonged to the see of Selsey, afterwards Chichester. In the reign of Edward the Confessor it was assessed at 20 hides.⁶ Later, probably soon after 1066, it was at farm for £25 a year, but in 1086 was said to be unable to pay this rent.⁷ It formed part of the temporalities of the bishopric of Chichester until the 16th century.⁸ In 1086 there pertained to it 3 haws in Lewes.⁹ The manor was never sub-infeudated and in the 13th century it was managed by a serjeant, assisted by a bedel and the reeve.¹⁰ In addition to the ordinary services, a rental of the mid-13th century reveals certain points of local interest, such as the holidays at the three great festivals, exemptions from services during illness, and the extensive sheep-farming



SEE OF CHICHESTER. *Azure Our Lord in majesty or with His vesture argent and a sword proceeding out of His mouth.*

³ See paper in the *Brighton and Hove Archaeologist*, lili, 139.

⁴ *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 391.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Exch. K.R. Misc. bdl.* 24, no. 22; a short account of the manor is given in

Suss. Rec. Soc. xxvii as an introduction to summaries of the court rolls.

⁹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 391.

¹⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxi, 80, 85.

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carried on by the bishop.¹¹ He had also certain maritime interests. A free-tenant paid him 1,000 red herrings at the beginning of Lent or 5s. at Lady Day. Each captain of a fishing-boat who was a man of the bishop owed him the catch of one net when fishing at Yarmouth or for mackerel, the profit and loss on which fell to the bishop, as well as the cost of mending the nets. He also claimed half the value of any porpoise, cask of wine, or other trove worth more than 4d. picked up by his captains, if it was landed between Thanet and the Isle of Wight.¹² All the tenants at Preston and Hove, including Upwick, had to repair the fences of the bishop's Park at Aldingbourne for a distance of 29 perches, 5 ft.¹³

In 1388 the bishop had 555 acres in the demesne, sown with corn of different kinds, and pasture, in common with his tenants, for 1,000 sheep and 60 oxen,¹⁴ but the system of direct farming later gave place to letting the demesne lands to a farmer. In 1510 Bishop Sherborne let them, together with West Wick, to Edward Elrington for a term of 80 years for £23 a year;¹⁵ Richard Elrington succeeded his father in 1515¹⁶ and obtained in 1550 a renewal of his lease for another 40 years till 1630.¹⁷ He also held a freehold in the manor which he bought from Sir Edward Braye in 1553.¹⁸ The inter-commoning between the farmers of the demesne and the other tenants led to serious disputes and, in 1536, an agreement was made by which the pasture called Cowdown was allotted to the farmer, at a rent of £3, while the tenants were to have pasture on Leyed Hill or the Lyddes.¹⁹

By an Act of Parliament passed in 1559 the Crown enforced an exchange of property with the bishop and Preston was amongst the manors ceded to Queen Elizabeth in 1561, when it was valued at £38 12s. 4d.²⁰ a year. Richard Elrington continued as lessee of the demesne lands until his death in 1569. He had married Mary, widow of William Shirley of Wiston, to whom he left his property and she left it to her younger son Anthony Shirley,²¹ the author of a long moral and religious poem entitled 'Witts New Dyall: or A Schollers Prize',²² written during an 'idle year' spent with his sister-in-law Mary and her husband Sir Thomas Pelham. He was the lessee of the demesnes in 1608.²³ Queen Elizabeth in 1597 had granted a lease in reversion to Richard Newman for a further 30 years,²⁴ which was acquired by Anthony Shirley.²⁵ Before the death of Anthony in 1624,²⁶ the two leases

had been assigned to his grandson, Thomas Shirley, the younger.²⁷

In January 1617 James I had granted the manor, with the court, privileges, and the rent from the demesnes, to trustees to hold for a term of 99 years, to the use of Charles, Prince of Wales, at a rent of £10 a year.²⁸ The surviving trustees in January 1628 transferred their interest to Thomas Shirley, at a rent of £43 3s. 11d. a year, to be increased to £66 3s. 11d. a year on the expiry of the Newman lease of the demesnes in 1660.²⁹ Finally, in the following March, Charles I sold the reversion of the fee simple of the manor, at the end of the term of 99 years at Michaelmas 1718, to Thomas Shirley,³⁰ and the court was held in his name in October 1628.³¹ Thomas Shirley, the younger, succeeded him in February 1637³² and made a settlement of the manor in 1650 on the marriage of his son and heir Anthony with Anne, daughter of Sir Richard Onslow.³³ Four years later Anthony succeeded his father.³⁴ He took a prominent part in local affairs as a member of Parliament during the Commonwealth, but also gained the royal favour after the Restoration and was created a baronet in 1666.³⁵ The fee-farm rent of £66 3s. 11d. was assigned in 1663 to Queen Catherine of Braganza as part of her jointure,³⁶ but the reversion after her death was sold in 1671 to Richard Onslow,³⁷ the brother of Dame Anne Shirley, for whom he was acting.³⁸ After Sir Anthony's death in 1683 she made her will and left this reversion to her brother.³⁹ The manor descended to her son Richard, the 2nd baronet, who owned it till his death in 1692,⁴⁰ when it passed under his marriage settlement, made in 1667, to his widow, Judith,⁴¹ who afterwards married Sir Henry Hatzell, a baron of the Exchequer.⁴² She survived her son Richard, the 3rd baronet, who



SHIRLEY. Paly or and azure with a quarter ermine.



WESTERN. Sable a chevron between two crescents in chief and a trefoil in base or.



STANFORD. Party or and sable a chevron nebuly between three bugle horns with three martlets on the chevron all counter-coloured.

died unmarried in 1705, when his heirs were his sisters Anne, Judith, and Mary.⁴³ Judith died unmarried

¹¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxi, 81, 83.

¹² *Ibid.* 79–86. ¹³ *Ibid.* 39.

¹⁴ *Add. MS.* 6165, fol. 107.

¹⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxvii, *Introd.* p. xx; *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 294.

¹⁶ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxvii, *Introd.*, p. xx.

¹⁷ *Land Rev. Misc. Bks.*, vol. cxvii, fol. 4; *Preston MSS.* *Indenture* 18 June, 19 Jas. I.

¹⁸ *Preston MSS.* *Rental*, 1551.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*

²⁰ *Exch. K.R. Misc. bde.* 24, no. 22.

²¹ See manor of Brighton-Lewes; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxvii, 12–13.

²² Published in 1604. A copy is in the British Museum.

²³ *Land Rev. Misc. Bks.*, vol. cxvii, fol. 4.

²⁴ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1595–7, p. 425.

²⁵ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxvii, *Introd.*, p. xxii.

²⁶ E. P. Shirley, *Stemmata Shirleiana* (1873), *ped. facing* p. 305.

²⁷ *Preston MSS.* *Indenture* 10 June, 19 Jas. I. His father, Thomas, had been appointed steward of the manor by James I in 1606: *Preston MSS.* *Letters Patent*, 4 March, 3 Jas. I.

²⁸ *Pat. R.* 14 Jas. I, pt. 20.

²⁹ *Ibid.* 3 Chas. I, pt. 1.

³⁰ *Ibid.*; *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxvii, *Introd.*, p. xxiv; cf. *Close* 1650, no. 13.

³¹ *Preston Court Bk.*, pt. i, 1628–56.

³² *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), mxcvi, 92.

³³ *Close R.* 1650, no. 13. The portrait of Sir Anthony may be seen in *Preston Place*; and it has been suggested that the

fine 16th-century Spanish leather wall-hangings in the same room may have come through his wife: H. D. Roberts, *Guide*, 21.

³⁴ E. P. Shirley, *loc. cit.*

³⁵ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iv, 27.

³⁶ *Horsfield, Sussex*, i, 169 n.

³⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxvii, *Introd.*, p. xxiv; Richard Onslow is here mistakenly identified with Anne's nephew.

³⁸ *Preston MSS.* Annotated copy of will of Anne Shirley. ³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ G.E.C. *Baronetage*, iv, 27.

⁴¹ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx, 361.

⁴² E. P. Shirley, *loc. cit.*; *Preston Manor MSS.* *Letters of J. Cheynell*.

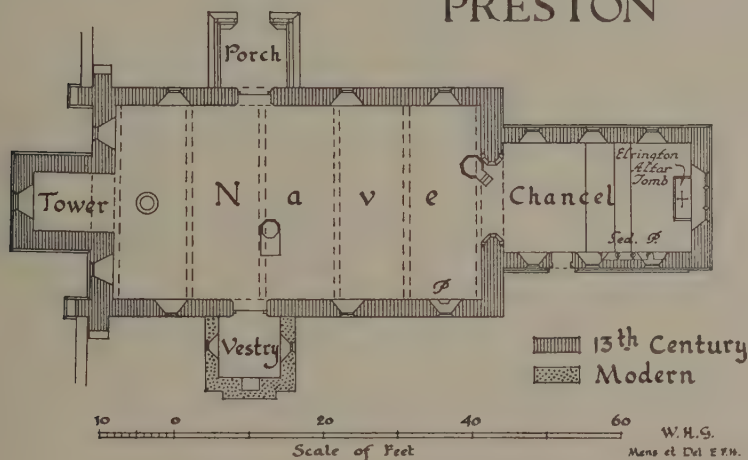
⁴³ G.E.C., *Baronetage*, iv, 27; Mary appears as Sara in a fine (Feet of F. Sussex, Mich. 1 Geo. II).

and Mary and her husband, Thomas Western of Rivenhall, Essex, bought Anne's moiety of the property for £6,275.⁴⁴ Their descendants owned the manor until 1794, when Thomas Callis Western sold it to William Stanford of Preston.⁴⁵ Stanford died in 1841 and was succeeded by his son William (d. 1853) and his granddaughter Ellen.⁴⁶ She married first Vere Fane-Benett, who assumed the name of Stanford and died in 1894, and, secondly, Charles Thomas, afterwards Sir Charles Thomas-Stanford, bart. Her son Col. J. M. Bennett-Stanford now owns the manor.⁴⁷ The manor-house, however, was separated from the rest of the property on its purchase by Sir Charles Thomas-Stanford, who gave it to the Brighton Corporation.⁴⁸

In 1236 Henry III granted the right of free-warren to the Bishop of Chichester in his manor of Preston.⁴⁹

The Bishop of Chichester *MARKET and FAIRS* held a weekly market at Preston and a fair for three days at the feast of SS. Peter and Paul each year, by the grant of Henry III.⁵⁷ In 1288 another fair was said to be held at 'La Houue' in the vill of Preston for two days at the feast of St. Andrew, when there were complaints that the keepers during a vacancy of the see had wrongfully taken tolls from those attending the fair, which was not the custom.⁵⁸ In 1307 the bishop obtained a new charter from the king by which the weekly market was to be held on Monday instead of Tuesday; the fair at the feast of SS. Peter and Paul was unaltered, but the second fair was to be held for three days at the feast of St. Edward the Confessor.⁵⁹ The market and fairs are not mentioned in the 16th-century rental.

PARISH CHURCH of ST. PETER PRESTON



In 1608 the liberties of hawking, hunting, fishing, and fowling belonged to the king.⁵⁰ No licence to inclose the *PARK* at Preston has been traced, but in 1344 certain men were accused of entering the free-warren and chases and breaking into the park at Preston.⁵¹ In 1883 Mrs. Benett-Stanford sold what is now Preston Park to the Brighton Corporation.⁵²

In the manor of Preston the bishop and the succeeding lords of the manor claimed waifs and strays.⁵³ The bishop's right to findings at sea have already been mentioned, and the steward of the manor in the 18th century sought the legal advice of Baron Hutzell in making his claim to certain casks of wine washed on shore and carried off by force to Brighton.⁵⁴ No separate view of frank-pledge was held for the manor of Preston, but the tenants went to the turn or view of the Hundred of Preston.⁵⁵ As the manor and hundred were in the same hands, the view appears at times as attached to the manor.⁵⁶

The eastern part of the parish of Hove was included in the manor of Preston and included Bishop's Wick, West Wick, and Upwick. In the 13th century the fourteen tenants of Bishop's Wick formed a separate group within the manor, and their lands extended to the coast and suffered damage from the sea.⁶⁰ Westwick, mentioned in the early 16th century, was then leased to a single farmer, Richard Smythe of Brighton.⁶¹ Upwick, which lay partly in Preston and partly in Hove, has been dealt with in the latter parish.⁶²

In 1086 there were 2 hides in Preston held by a tenant named Lovel⁶³ and this land may be identical with the 2 hides in Bolney (q.v.) held by Bartholomew de Bolney in the 13th century.⁶⁴

The church of *ST. PETER* stands *CHURCHES* immediately to the east of the manor-house, Preston Manor. The church is built of flint with stone dressings, and consists of a nave and chancel and western tower, all of the end of the

⁴⁴ Horsfield, op. cit. i, 169.

⁴⁵ Close R. 34 Geo. III, no. 12.

⁴⁶ C. Thomas-Stanford, *The Descent of the Family of Stanford of Preston, Sussex*.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ H. D. Roberts, *Guide to Preston Manor*.

⁴⁹ Cal. Close, 1234-7, p. 322.

⁵⁰ Land Rev. Misc. Bks., vol. xcvi, fol. 5.

⁵¹ Cal. Pat. 1343-5, p. 488.

⁵² Kelly, *Directory* (1934).

⁵³ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxi, 84; *Treas. of*

Rec. Misc. Bk., vol. clvii, fol. 170.

⁵⁴ Preston Manor MSS. Letters of R. Cheynell.

⁵⁵ Assize R. 914 (7 Edw. I), m. 61 d.; *Preston Ct. Bks. passim*.

⁵⁶ *Treas. of Rec. Misc. Bk.*, vol. clvii, fol. 70.

⁵⁷ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxvii, *Introd.*, p. xix; Assize R. 914, m. 61 d.

⁵⁸ Assize R. 924, m. 57.

⁵⁹ Charter R. 1 Edw. II, m. 8, no. 23.

⁶⁰ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxi, 83-4.

⁶¹ Ibid. xxvii, *Introd.*, p. xx.

⁶² See above, pp. 266-7.

⁶³ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 391.

⁶⁴ *Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxi, 79. Other outlying fiefs of the bishop were $\frac{1}{2}$ fee in Bolney, 1 hide at Albourne, 1 hide at Eartham, and 2 hides at Ernley in Manwode: *ibid.* 134. In the 16th century over 100 acres in Slaugham were held as copyhold of Preston Manor: *ibid.* xxvii, 10; *Treas. of Rec. Misc. Bks.*, vol. clvii, fol. 165.

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13th century, and a modern north porch to the nave, with a vestry on the south balancing it. The church was gutted by fire in 1906, and was subsequently considerably restored.

The north door within the modern porch is of segmental-pointed form with discontinuous impost, the jambs being chamfered, and the arch hollow-chamfered. The door was originally external, and has a simple drip-stone with horizontal stops. The nave and chancel each have three broad lancet windows on either side. The nave has two west windows of similar form, one on either side of the tower. The east window of the chancel is of three graded lancets, much restored but on the original lines. The two western angles of the nave have pairs of buttresses, each with a medial set-off. A modern window in the east gable of the nave replaces an original single lancet. On the south side of the chancel the westernmost lancet has its sill lowered to form a 'low-side window', and the sill of the easternmost is raised to give room to sedilia within the chancel. East of the western lancet is a much restored priest's door. The west tower has a slender lancet on each side of the belfry, and north and south lancets light the ringing floor. The tower space within the church is lit by a single wide lancet. A pyramidal cap, supported by a corbel-table, covers the top of the tower; the corbels are carved as masks.

The tower arch is of segmental-pointed form in two hollow-chamfered orders, and has no impost or responds. The scotarches of the north and south nave doorways are pointed, and higher than the external arches. Excepting the east window, all the windows of the church are wide lancets, widely splayed and with obtusely pointed scotarches. The eastern triplet is contained within a single reveal, having a simply moulded obtusely pointed scotarch. At the south-east corner of the nave is a simple piscina. The chancel arch rises from semi-octagonal responds, having triple-roll bases and wide caps with hollow bells, plain rolls, and finished with scroll mouldings. The wall-arches next the responds have chamfers finished with trefoil stops at their upper ends. Above the caps, the responds continue in plain semi-hexagonal form to meet the segmental-pointed arch with its discontinuous impost. The span of the opening above the caps is less than that below them. The arch is of two hollow-chamfered orders. The chancel contains elaborate triple sedilia, all graded, with jamb-shafts and trefoil arches. The adjoining piscina is plainer, and has no shafts. There are two bowls and a credence shelf. The roofs of nave and chancel date from the reconstruction after the fire of 1906.

The altar consists of the fine stone altar-tomb of Edward Elrington, who died in 1515, removed from the north wall of the chancel. There are four quatrefoil panels on the front and one on each of the ends, each inclosing a coat of arms. That to the north is Elrington impaling Etchingham. On the front are Etchingham, Braose impaling Shirley, Blount, and Elrington impaling Etchingham. To the south is an unidentified coat of five scallop shells, impaling Blount.⁶⁵ The font is modern, but an earlier font had been formed out of two odd shaft-stones and a marble bowl from an 18th-century garden feature. Before the fire of 1906, the

mural paintings in the nave were more complete than at present.⁶⁶ Over the chancel arch were depicted the Incrudulity of St. Thomas, 'Noli me Tangere', SS. Catherine and Margaret, a bishop (possibly St. Nicholas), and a female figure. Level with the springing of the arch were, on the north side, the martyrdom of St. Thomas of Canterbury, and, on the south side, St. Michael weighing souls. On the north wall of the nave nearby was a large painting of the Last Supper, separated by a strip of clouds from a frieze depicting the Nativity. Below the large painting was a remarkably fine floral border. On the north wall of the chancel there used to be a mural tablet commemorating Anthony Shirley, and depicting him and his wife with seven sons and five daughters.⁶⁷

The tower has three old bells, one of which has an inscription invoking St. Botolph, and is said to be of the 15th century, the others being of 1631 and 1714 respectively.⁶⁸

The only old piece of communion plate is a silver cup, with a plain paten cover dated 1569.⁶⁹

The registers date from 1539, and are in the possession of Hove Parish Church,⁷⁰ which was annexed to Preston in 1531, being separated therefrom in 1879.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Preston Road, was built in 1902 and was made the parish church in 1908. It is of rough-finished stone with ashlar dressings in a pseudo-Gothic style, from the designs of Sir A. Blomfield, and consists of a clerestoried nave of five bays, aisles, clerestoried chancel (added in 1926) divided from the nave by a plain wooden screen and having a stone reredos, and sedilia in its south wall, vestries and organ at the north-east, and a baptistry separated from the nave by three arches at the west end. There is a small turret and spire containing eight tubular bells above the crossing.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD, Dyke Road, is of brick with stone dressings. The four western bays of the nave were built by E. P. Warren in 1922 and the rest was added in 1927. It consists of a nave of five bays with processional paths, chancel with wooden sedilia in the south wall, chapel at the south-east, and a small war memorial chapel with wrought iron gates at the north-east of the nave. The battlemented tower at the south-west has a porch in its base.

ST. ALBAN, Coombe Road, was built in 1910-14, from the designs of Lacy W. Ridge, of red brick, and consists of a nave with a wooden roof supported by two bays of brick arches and two pairs of iron pillars, aisles, small transepts, chancel, chapel formed with wooden screens at the south-east, and organ and vestry at the north-east. There is a small tower with spire at the south-west and a bell-gable with one bell above the crossing.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Stanford Avenue, was built, from the designs of G. E. Streatfield, in 1896, of red brick with stone dressings in the Perpendicular style, the chancel being added in 1913. It consists of a clerestoried nave of five bays, aisles, north transept, apsidal chancel with processional path around it, and a chapel to the south of it. There are porches at the west and south.

ST. MATTHIAS, Ditchling Road, was built, from the designs of Lacy W. Ridge, in 1906 and consecrated

⁶⁵ There is a note on this tomb in the *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xix, 5.

⁶⁶ See *Archaeologia*, xxiii, 309.

⁶⁷ Recorded by Frederick Harrison,

F.S.A., in his guide to the church.

⁶⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 221; lvii, 33.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.* lv, 142.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.* liii, 267. The registers of Hove and Preston from 1539 to 1812 have been printed by E. F. Salmon.

in 1912. It is of red brick and consists of a clerestoried nave of four bays with brick arches springing from stone pillars, and a wooden hammer-beam roof, aisles, apsidal chancel built above a hall, chapel at the south-east, vestry at the north-east, and baptistry at the west end. There is a small round tower with spire and a porch in its base at the south-west.

ST. SAVIOUR, Ditchling Road, was built by Messrs. Scott and Cawthorn in 1886 of flint rubble with brick dressings and consists of a nave of five bays, aisles, chancel with sedilia, north and south porches, vestry at the north-east, and the base of a tower at the south-east. There is a crypt or hall beneath the nave.

A church was attached to the manor *ADVOWSON* of Preston in 1086⁷¹ and probably stood on the site of St. Peter's church, just above the manor-house. The advowson probably formed part of the original endowment of the prebend of Hova Ecclesia, to which it certainly belonged at the end of the 14th century.⁷²

A vicarage was instituted before 1291 and was valued at £5 6s. 8d. a year,⁷³ which, in 1340, included 15 acres of arable land and certain pasturage rights.⁷⁴ No separate rectorial estate appears at Preston, this being included in the prebendal estate. In 1531, on the resignation of John Segar, vicar of Preston, the

vicarage of Hove was annexed to that of Preston and succeeding vicars were instituted until 1879 to the united benefice of Preston and Hove.⁷⁵ In 1624 the vicarage was possessed of glebe at Preston consisting of a croft containing 1½ acres; 2½ acres of land of which the vicar had the crops and the tenants the herbage; tithe corn from 18 yard-lands in Preston and from 2 acres in Slonke and 20 acres in Scrase fields; tithe hay from all the meadow-land in Preston and from all the pasture-land mowed in any year. Besides this there was a house, barn, garden, and orchard.⁷⁶

With the extension of the urban area into Preston, new ecclesiastical arrangements became necessary. On the resignation in 1878 of the Rev. Walter Kelly, who had been vicar for 44 years, the vicarages of Hove and Preston were separated and the bishop became the patron of Preston.⁷⁷ New churches were needed; St. John the Evangelist, Preston Road, was built, and in 1908 became the parish church, the old church of St. Peter being now a chapel of ease. The following independent parishes have been formed from the old parish: the vicarages of St. Saviours (1888), St. Albans (1915), and the church of the Good Shepherd, all in the gift of the Bishop of Chichester; St. Luke, Prestonville (1875) in the gift of trustees; St. Matthias (1913) in the gift of the vicar of Preston.

⁷¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 391a.

⁷² Add. MS. 39343, fol. 288.

⁷³ *Tax. Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), 136.

⁷⁴ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 385.

⁷⁵ Add. MS. 39343, fols. 290, 295;

Valor Eccl. (Rec. Com.), i, 332; *Suss.*

Rec. Soc. iv, 14; P.R.O. Inst. Bks. 1662,

1749, 1754; Add. MS. 39470, fol. 84.

⁷⁶ Add. MS. 39468, fol. 199.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.* 39343, fol. 295.

THE HALF-HUNDRED OF FISHERSGATE

CONTAINING THE PARISHES OF

ALDRINGTON HANGLETON PORTSLADE

AT the time of the Domesday survey the eastern half of Fishersgate Hundred,¹ then known as 'Eldretune', consisted of Eldretune (now Aldrington), 'Esmerewic', Hangleton, and Portslade.² The whole half-hundred was assessed together in 1296 under Portslade Atlingworth.³ In 1327 the divisions were Portslade and Hangleton,⁴ and in 1332 Aldrington, Portslade, Hangleton, and Atlingworth, though no subsidy was exacted from this last, the property of the prior of Lewes.⁵ There were two 'boroughs' at the end of the 16th and the beginning of the 17th century, namely, Portslade and Hangleton.⁶ At this time the common farm of Portslade was 4*s.* every half-year, to which every yard-land in Portslade contributed 2*d.* and every yard-land in West Aldrington 1½*d.*, with certain exceptions. A certain farm in East Aldrington contributed 13*d.*⁷ The common farm of Hangleton was 2*s.* every half-year, and towards this the farmer of Hangleton paid 2*s.* at Lady Day, while the farmer of certain lands in East Aldrington paid the other 2*s.* at Michaelmas.⁸ Hangleton alone is named on the subsidy roll of 1621.⁹ East Aldrington, Hangleton, and Portslade are found in 1624,¹⁰ however, and though the village of Aldrington was destroyed by the encroachment of the sea, so that not a single inhabitant appears in the census returns 1801-31, and only one in 1841,¹¹ yet these divisions remained unchanged.¹²

The hundred was given to William de Warenne after the Conquest and descended with the rape.

¹ Fysseregate (xiii cent.); Fissheresgate (xiv cent.); Fyshergate (xv cent.); Fishersgate (xvii cent.).

² *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 439.

³ *Subs.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. x), 49.

⁴ *Ibid.* 174.

⁵ *Ibid.* 288-9.

⁶ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 146-7.

⁷ *Ibid.* 147.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* ix, 79.

¹⁰ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 103 (County rate).

¹¹ *V.C.H. Suss.* ii, 224 and note.

¹² *Ibid.*, cf. Horsfield, loc. cit.

FISHERSGATE HALF-HUNDRED

ALDRINGTON

Eldretune, Aldrintune (xi cent.); Aldertone, Aldrynton (xiii cent.); East Aldrington (xvii cent.)

Aldrington has been identified as the 'Ederyngtune' given by King Alfred in his will to his younger son,¹ and as the Roman station of Portus Adurni,² but it seems unlikely that either of these identifications is correct.

The ancient site of Aldrington village seems to have been at the mouth of the River Adur,³ the scour of which, combined with coastal erosion, has caused the disappearance of the village. The road from it apparently followed the usual course of those in neighbouring villages and led inland towards the Downs, upon the lower slopes of which were the common fields and pasture of the inhabitants. This road seems to have passed northwards towards the ancient site of Hangleton village, and is apparently represented to-day by Portslade Station Road, which forms the western boundary of the parish.

In medieval times the erosion seems to have been considerable, at least 40 acres being lost between 1291 and 1340.⁴ Only two houses were assessed to the Hearth Tax of 1665,⁵ and the great storms of 1703 and 1705 almost completed the destruction of the village, the population of which in 1801 was two persons only.⁶

At the end of the 19th century, however, the new maritime village of Portslade-by-Sea was founded on the west of the old street of Aldrington, and building development spreading into Aldrington parish, coupled with the western development of Hove, have together combined to obliterate the individuality of Aldrington, which since 1893 has been incorporated with the Borough of Hove; but it is still a separate parish, with an area of 796 acres. The area is to-day practically entirely built upon, and has a large population. There is a station on the Brighton-Shoreham line of the Southern Railway, known however as Portslade.

The basin forming an eastern extension of Shoreham Harbour and running some distance into Aldrington was begun in 1851 and its construction was the cause of protracted litigation between Hugh Fuller, and later Hugh Ingram, owners of that part of Aldrington, and the Harbour Commissioners.⁷

The old parish was in 1911 divided into two ecclesiastical parishes. Since then there have been three mission districts formed, two of which have now become parishes. These are the North Aldrington district, of which the bishop is patron, and the Bishop Hannington Memorial district, which on 5 May 1939 became a separate parish, with trustees as patrons. The third is the Holy Cross district, which is part of St. Philip's parish.⁸

Before the Conquest *ALDRINGTON MANORS* was divided into two parts. One was part of King Edward's manor of Beeding, and was held by villeins, and the other was part of the manor of Broadwater held by Wigot. Both Beeding and Broadwater were in William de Braiose's rape of Bramber after the Conquest, but Aldrington itself was in the rape of Lewes, and became part of the fief of William de Warenne, who gave both parts to Godfrey de Pierpoint. Godfrey held them as separate estates, assessed at 9 hides and 7 hides and $\frac{1}{2}$ virgate respectively, but in the two there was but one hall (*aula*).⁹

Aldrington continued to be divided, part being held as of the manor of Portslade (q.v.).¹⁰ In 1247 the manor of Portslade with Aldrington was granted in dower to Margaret, Countess of Kent, widow of Hubert de Burgh, by her step-son, John de Burgh.¹¹ In 1284 one-half of Aldrington was held with Portslade.¹² This land of West Aldrington¹³ passed with the manor of Portslade to the Edwards family, is mentioned in a conveyance of the manor in 1664 by Abraham Edwards,¹⁴ and is probably represented by Aldrington Farm, consisting of 574 acres, belonging in 1835 to Hugh Fuller,¹⁵ after whose death in 1858 it came into the hands of Hugh Ingram.¹⁶

The rest of Aldrington must have come into the hands of Ralph de Chesney soon after the Domesday Survey, for William de Warenne, the second, confirmed to the monks of Lewes a hide of land in Aldrington given them by Ralph de Chesney, the younger, for the soul of his wife,¹⁷ and Ralph, Bishop of Chichester, confirmed to them the tithe of Ralph de Chesney's land in Aldrington.¹⁸ Ralph evidently retained some land at Aldrington which was sometimes described as the manor of *EAST ALDRINGTON*¹⁹ and became annexed to his manor of Hangleton (q.v.), and passed with it to Richard Bellingham of Newtimber. By his will proved in February 1535²⁰ Richard left part of his land at Aldrington to his younger son Edward by his second wife Mary, daughter of William Everard, on condition that Mary gave up all claim to Hangleton Manor. This land at Aldrington comprised three fields called the Laynes and other land in the occupation of Henry Matthew and Henry Haull, with 400 sheep leazes from Michaelmas to Lady Day.²¹ This land passed as a capital messuage or farm in Aldrington on the death of



BELLINGHAM. *Argent three hunting horns sable.*

¹ Birch, *Cart. Sax.* ii, 187.

² Add. MS. 5683, fol. 25.

³ Isolated entries of orders addressed to 'the bailiffs and goodmen' of Aldrington in 1301 (*Cal. Close* 1296-1302, p. 483, *Cal. Pat.* 1292-1301, p. 584) for the provision of two ships for the Scottish expedition suggest the existence of a considerable port here, which is not borne out by any other evidence.

⁴ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 386.

⁵ *Lay Subs.* 258, no. 18.

⁶ These were the toll-gate keeper and his wife: Lower, *Hist. of Suss.* i, 4.

⁷ For details see *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxvii, 105.

⁸ *Ex inf.* the Rev. H. T. Mogridge, Rector of Aldrington.

⁹ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 439 a.

¹⁰ Cf. Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 159.

¹¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 438.

¹² *Feud. Aids*, v, 129.

¹³ Cf. *Bk. of J. Rowse* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 147. Apparently Newbarne farm in East Aldrington pertained also to Portslade.

¹⁴ *Recov. R. East.* 16 Chas. II, no. 28.

¹⁵ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 159.

¹⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxvii, 105.

¹⁷ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 13, 40.

¹⁸ *Suss. N. & Q.* i, 49.

¹⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 200; P.C.C. 4 Tashe; *Bk. of J. Rowse* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 147. In 1387 Sir William Fifhild held from Lord Poyning 40 acres in Aldrington called 'La Fanne': *Cal. Pat.* 1388-92, p. 201. His father had acquired land in the parish from the heirs of Richard de Hangleton in 1349: *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), no. 2089.

²⁰ P.C.C. 4 Tashe.

²¹ *Ibid.*

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

Edward Bellingham in 1605 to his son Sir Edward.²² It was subsequently held with half the manor of Ovingdean by Sir Edward Bellingham on his death in 1637,²³ but it is not mentioned afterwards in conveyances of the manor of Ovingdean (q.v.).²⁴ It may have been identical with a freehold estate held in 1785 by Mr. Challen, with half Ovingdean.²⁵

This land at Aldrington bequeathed to his younger son did not include the whole of Richard Bellingham's estate in the parish, for some land there passed to his eldest son, also named Edward, and remained part of Hangleton Manor, passing with it to the Countess of Plymouth, afterwards Lady Amherst,²⁶ who died in 1864. This was part of the estate known as the Red House Farm.²⁷

The land given to the priory of Lewes by Ralph de Chesney, together with a hide given by Godfrey de Pierpoint,²⁸ remained with the priory until the Dissolution. In 1387 30 acres of land in Aldrington were held of the prior by Sir William Fifhide.²⁹ In 1535 the priory held assized rents at Aldrington, pertaining to their manor of Atlingworth and Portslade.³⁰ In 1537 the prior granted all his tenements there to the king³¹ who in 1538 gave them to Thomas Cromwell.³² In 1571 a so-called manor of *ALDRINGTON* was in the hands of the Queen, and 20 acres of land belonging to it, formerly Prestalls, were held in socage by John Edmondes who was succeeded in that year by his son Walter.³³

The parish church of *ST. NICHOLAS, CHURCH* which stands a little to the east of Portslade Station Road, consists of a nave of five bays, a chancel having a large vestry on the south, and a baptistry at the west end of the nave. The south aisle of the nave is the old church, and has at its western end a tower with a broach spire. All except the south aisle and tower were built in 1936. The new work is of flint with stone dressings, and is in a modern Gothic style. The nave has arcades to both north and south, but the north aisle is not yet built.

The old church, now the south aisle, with its west tower, is of late-13th-century date. It was rebuilt in 1878 after having long lain in ruins. The church was already neglected in 1586;³⁴ ten years later the rector had removed the font to his own house, fearing it might be stolen, as the church lay open without a door.³⁵ In 1603 the bell was sold to Henfield to be used for making a new bell for that parish;³⁶ and in 1638 the church was reported to be 'very ruinous'.³⁷ By the beginning of the 19th century most of the side walls had fallen.³⁸ It consisted of a nave and chancel under one roof, and a small west tower, all constructed of flint with stone dressings. The north wall was removed when the

church was enlarged in 1936, and much of the remainder of the walling is restoration, but the east wall below the heads of the windows, the lower part of the tower, and the bottom courses of the south wall are original. The south wall has six single-light 13th-century windows with obtusely pointed heads. Some of the interior jamb-stones appear to be original. The east wall has a pair of similar lights close together, much of the stonework being original. There is a curious indecipherable carving at the junction of the springing of the scoinson arches. Above these two windows is a modern sexfoil. The south door is a restoration, as is also the tower arch, although the bases of this appear to be original. The tower has pairs of buttresses at the angles, and a modern shingled broach spire. The registers date from 1878.

The church of *ST. PHILIP* stands on the road joining the old churches of Aldrington and Hove, and about midway between the two. It is of brick with stone dressings and was built in 1895, in a sort of Gothic style. It consists of a nave of five bays with aisles to north and south, an apsidal west baptistry, and a south porch. The chancel has an apsidal south chapel, and vestries and organ loft on the north. The registers date from 1911.

Hubert de Burgh, Justiciar of Eng-
ADVOWSON land, is said to have given the church of St. Leonard [*sic*] of 'Aldertone' to the use of the fabric of the church of St. Radigund of Bradsole, with reversion after completion of the works to the use of the sacrist to find lights for ever in the church of St. Radigund, saving to David the parson his portion while he lived.³⁹ This gift must have been revoked, for the advowson was held by Hubert's widow, Margaret, Countess of Kent, from 1247⁴⁰ and it descended with that part of Aldrington that was appurtenant to Portslade Manor⁴¹ at least until 1664, when it belonged to Abraham Edwards.⁴² The Rev. John Citizen was patron in 1718⁴³ and in 1750 he gave the advowson to Magdalene College, Cambridge,⁴⁴ who sold it before 1879, in which year the Rev. Henry Manning Ingram presented himself to the living. The patronage was transferred from him to the Bishop of Chichester by Order in Council dated 22 March 1911, in which year the separate ecclesiastical parish of St. Philip's was formed from St. Leonard's parish. The bishop is now patron of both parishes.⁴⁵

The Bishop of Chichester in 1402 licensed the rector of Aldrington, upon his resignation of the living, to build himself a cell in the churchyard to the north of the Cathedral Church at Chichester, and to live there as an anchorite, having free access to the Lady Chapel in the church.⁴⁶

²² *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiii), 196.

²³ *Ibid.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 109.

²⁴ In Younsmere Hundred.

²⁵ Add. MS. 5683, fol. 27; *ibid.* 5684, fol. 90.

²⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xii, 118.

²⁷ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 159.

²⁸ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii),

²⁹ *Cal. Pat.* 1388-92, p. 201.

³⁰ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 330.

³¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 426.

³² *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1),

g. 384 (74).

³³ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iii), pp. 71, 73.

³⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* liii, 2.

³⁵ Add. MS. 39444, fol. 73.

³⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlix, 56.

³⁷ Add. MS. 39444, fol. 82.

³⁸ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 159; *Gent. Mag.* 1792, 105, fig. 2.

³⁹ Dugdale, *Mon. Angl.* vi, 942.

⁴⁰ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 438.

⁴¹ In 1351 the parish is described as Long Aldrington; *Cal. Pap. Pet.* i, 222. In 1603 the patron was Richard Snelling.

The parish, however, was described as East Aldrington; *Misc. Rec.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iv), 5.

⁴² *Recov. R. East.* 16 Chas. II, ro. 28. Lord De La Warre presented in 1415, but Nicholas Leventhorp was patron in 1483; *ex inf.* the Rev. H. T. Mogridge, rector.

⁴³ *Inst. Bks.* (P.R.O.).

⁴⁴ *Ex inf.* F. R. Salter.

⁴⁵ *Ex inf.* the Rev. H. T. Mogridge, Rector of Aldrington; Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

⁴⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxix, 33.



ALDRINGTON: RUINS OF THE OLD CHURCH, 1772
(from a drawing in the Burrell Collections)



HANGLETON CHURCH, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST, 1802
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)

FISHERSGATE HALF-HUNDRED

HANGLETON

Hangeton (xi cent.); Hangeltona (xii cent.); Hangilton, Angleton (xvi cent.).

The parish of Hangleton covers an area of 1,120 acres of Downland, and forms a rectangle, approximately 2 miles from north to south and three-quarters of a mile broad, lying between the parishes of Portslade and West Blatchington, north-west of Brighton. The area was all farmland until a year or two ago, when building development from the southern parish of Aldrington began to spread over Hangleton, so that its 1931 population of 109 is now very much augmented. Under the Hove (Extension) Order of 1927 Hangleton was included within the borough of Hove, but it remains a separate parish.¹

The original village was situated on an ancient trackway which, coming from London and crossing the main range of the Downs at Saddlescombe, passed down the spur known as Round Hill and thence turned south-westwards, through the present village of Portslade, to reach the estuary of the River Adur near where Southwick village is to-day.² Hangleton village was founded on the southern slopes of Round Hill, just where the ancient route turns towards the west. The old road, which is believed to have had an Early Iron Age origin, was still in use as a highway as late as 1635, but it has now ceased to exist north of Hangleton Church, to-day the sole relic of the original village, which lay to the north-east of the church, the site being still marked by mounds and known as Stoney Croft. The summit of Round Hill, which is 445 ft. in height, is covered with the remains of early field systems. Among them is a tumulus, probably of the Bronze Age, excavated in 1926, but found to have been previously rifled.³

The old road descends the hill-side on its way south-westwards from the church to Benfields, thence climbing the opposite hill, in a deeply sunken track, to leave the parish on its way to Portslade. Benfields lay on the end of a spur overlooking the valley between Portslade and Hangleton, and is now marked by a farm.⁴ Across the old road lie the manor-house, its farm, and the few cottages which house the population of the old part of Hangleton.

The oldest portion of Hangleton Manor-House,⁵ judging by a doorway in its south wall, is the long low building to the west of the main house. This doorway appears to be of 15th-century date and is the only original feature in this wall. The north side of this building is partly covered by a large modern garage, but the four two-light windows nearest to this, although deprived of their label-moulds, seem to be original features of the mid-16th century. A number of old doors and windows have been inserted into the walls of this building, probably from other parts of the struc-

ture. The western range is now a hollow shell with a modern roof, and nothing remains of any medieval interior arrangements, but it may represent, approximately, the shell of the 15th-century manor-house. The north wall of this range is continued, without any change in its appearance, to form the front wall of the house proper. The four windows previously referred to suggest that this wall was rebuilt when the present house was constructed, and the remains of similar windows, east of the porch, originally lighting the hall and the chamber above it, tend to confirm the mid-16th century as the date when this was done. Further-



HANGLETON: THE MANOR-HOUSE

more, 12th-century carved stones from Lewes Priory, destroyed for its materials in 1537, are built into the front wall of the house, immediately above the east side of the hall door. The rebuilder of the house is thus probably Richard Bellingham, who held the manor from 1540 to 1553, and whose initials appear on one of the fire-places.

The main lines of the plan, except for the staircase block, probably date from this period. The general arrangement of the plan was a hall having a great parlour at one end, and at the other a kitchen approached from the hall by a passage between the buttery, over a cellar, and the staircase. Hall and parlour each had a chamber over it, and there was probably another over the kitchen. The hall door may be of this date, and also that now at the head of the stairs, which was once external and faced south, as a scratch dial is cut on its present south jamb. This door was probably originally at the south end of the screens, opposite to the hall door. The kitchen gable, with its upper window and door below, and possibly the porch are also of this period.

Shortly after the middle of the 16th century the house seems to have undergone alteration. The present scullery, with a chamber over, was formed out of the old western range; the porch-room window is of this date, as is also that to the buttery and the blocked six-

¹ Kelly, *Suss. Dir.* (1934).

² *Brighton and Hove Archaeologist*, iii, 28.

³ *Ibid.* 35.

⁴ The manor-house, dated 1611, of which a view is given in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* x, 165, with its heraldic ornament bearing the Covert arms, was pulled down in

1871: *ibid.* xxxiv, 176.

⁵ There is a sketch plan, and a few notes on this house, in the *R.I.B.A. Journal* xxxviii (1931), 589.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

light window to the chamber over this. The south window to the chamber over the parlour, and the east window in the north half of the parlour itself, now the library, are also contemporary, as are the porch doorway and the heavy oak screen at the west end of the hall, dividing this from the buttery. This screen has a heavily moulded central doorway, now blocked, which once led to the kitchen passage, and south of this another door which leads to the present passage, but once gave access to the stair. At the head of the present stair is the old stair-lobby, surrounded by heavy half-timber partitions in which may be seen the remains of doorways with four-centred heads; one of these leads to the foot of the attic stair, with its stop-chamfered newel and steps cut out of solid blocks of oak; another leads to the porch-room. The re-set fire-place in the drawing-room part of the great parlour may be of this date; it has an interior of pressed brick, as have others of the fine fire-places in this house.

At the end of the 16th century the house was again altered and improved. The fine screen in the hall, and the elaborate plaster ceiling over its dais, date from this period. The chief constructional addition, however, was the staircase block, with its great stair. The house was almost entirely refenestrated, the east wing being re-roofed to provide a sort of 'long gallery' with windows at either end. The east wall was designed to form a 'front', with a row of three large new windows on the upper floor. In the first half of the 17th century the dais end of the hall was cut off to form the present smoking-room, into which an old fire-place was re-set. The subdivision of the chamber over the great parlour possibly occurred at this time, as its fire-place is early-17th-century in style. The parlour itself was probably not divided, however, until the 18th century, when two large windows were formed in it and in the smoking-room, also at one time divided.

The south gable shows the single-light window of the 'long gallery' above a five-light early-Elizabethan window with a transom, which lights the first floor. Below is a rather later four-light window with a transom. The east front has three contemporary windows on its first floor. The centre window below is the early-Elizabethan window, of five lights with a transom, to the parlour. The two side windows on this floor are 18th-century makeshifts, between the northernmost of which and the centre window is a late-18th-century garden door. On the north front may be seen the late-Elizabethan windows of the hall, each of five lights with a transom, the easternmost raised to clear the dais. Next the porch are remains of the original hall windows and on the west side of the porch is the buttery window with the remains of a chamber window above it. Two late windows come next, the lower lighting the kitchen and the upper showing signs of curtailment. The other windows on this front are all insertions, except for the four westernmost. The modern garage blocks those farther west. The back of the house is covered with stucco, through which appear an assortment of windows of all periods. The south side of the western range shows a similar medley of insertions, with, however, the one original 15th-century door mentioned earlier.

The chief feature of the interior of the house is the fine screen in the hall, in the usual five bays marked by fluted Corinthian pilasters with well-carved caps.⁶ The

northernmost door was filled with panelling in the early part of the 17th century. In the three panels forming the attic above the cornice is inscribed a version of the Ten Commandments. The dais end of the hall is now inclosed in the smoking-room, which has a fine plaster ceiling, covered with geometrical designs with bosses bearing heraldic emblems.⁷ The fire-place here is of stone, with a four-centred arch, now surrounded by Jacobean panelling. The drawing-room fire-place is of freestone, with a four-centred arch and a long panel over it carved with a sort of burlesque-Renaissance design of heraldic animals. The fire-place in the chamber over is equally crudely carved but more restrained in design, with geometrical patterns. That in the chamber north of this, however, is of remarkable excellence both in design and execution. It is made of a hard grey stone and has a delicately moulded Berkeley arch, with long spandrels, also carved, the sinister containing what is apparently a torch, over which is a capital B, the opposite spandrel having an R to match it.⁸ The quality of the material and workmanship, the refinement of the design, and the employment of the Berkeley arch, suggest that this fire-place is not of local workmanship. The chamber over the hall has a similar fire-place, but with plain spandrels and embellished in late Elizabethan times with a fluted frieze of white freestone with roses upon it. The hall fire-place is now merely a brick recess, with a Jacobean door-head built into its back, but in the westernmost cottage in the gatehouse is an oak chimney-beam of considerable span which may have been removed from either the hall or kitchen of the house itself; it is of the 16th century, with a four-centred arch with deeply cut spandrels.

The grand staircase is of unusual design. Rising from ground to first floor, it is built around a large square newel, solid up to the string, but then replaced by a hollow square of slender balusters, four a side. On the first floor, backing on to the well balustrade, is a low seat passing along the two sides of this. In the hand-rail, at points over each newel, are holes for candles, closed by wooden plugs when not in use. A fluted frieze surrounds the well.

It was possibly intended originally that the house should stand at the back of a square courtyard formed by walls joining the house to the gatehouse block which remains parallel to it and a short distance to the north. This block, probably intended for stables, is now divided into a number of small cottages. The gateway itself is formed in well-cut ashlar, with large voussoirs in the Renaissance manner, has a simple chamfered three-centred arch, and a hood-mould returned horizontally and stopped, and formed of a Classical cornice without its bedmould. The gate passage slopes steeply down through another similar arch, entering the courtyard between two large buttresses, the eastern of which has a rectangular scratch-dial on the south face. The south wall of the gatehouse has been raised and altered at its western end. No original windows are visible externally, though the reveals of some remain inside the cottages. The date of the building is probably in the second half of the 16th century.

A few yards to the south-east of the Manor House is a circular pigeon-house, flint-built, with a conical tiled roof, and possibly dating from the end of the 17th century.⁹ It has boxes for 526 nests. The potency is of

⁶ A scale drawing of this illustrates the typescript of the paper mentioned in the last note, now in the R.I.B.A. Library.

⁷ A drawing of one corner of this ceiling is given in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxiv, opposite p. 173.

⁸ The characters are Italianate Roman in style.

⁹ *Brighton and Hove Archaeologist*, iii, 134.

unusual form, being constructed like an exceptionally tall field-gate, with six rails and a diagonal strut. It thus is a ladder as well as a potence, and also provides perches for the birds.

It was stated in 1603 that there was only one house in the parish and about sixteen communicants,¹⁰ but it would seem that both Hangleton Place and Benfields must have been in existence at that time. In the religious census taken in 1676 Hangleton contained twenty-six conformists and one nonconformist.¹¹ There were five families in the parish in 1724, the largest being Quakers. Services in the church were held only once a fortnight by the rector of Southwick and there had been no Communion within the memory of man.¹²

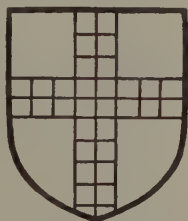
Henry Shales, rector of Hangleton, was charged in 1583 with having been a seminary priest in Rome or France, and preaching heretical doctrines; he was debarred from preaching and resigned the living in 1585.¹³

In 1086 *HANGLETON* was held of *MANORS* William de Warenne by William de Wateville for 8½ hides. Azor had held it in the time of King Edward and it was then assessed for 14 hides and one virgate. The estate had been part of Kingston Bucy, a manor of William de Braiose.¹⁴

The overlordship of this manor descended with the rape until the death of Beatrice, Countess of Arundel, in 1439, when it was assigned to the Duke of Norfolk.¹⁵ In 1608 the manor was said to be held of Thomas, Earl of Arundel and Edward, Lord Bergavenny.¹⁶ The share of Lord Bergavenny may have been certain land in Hangleton, part of the manor of Patcham (q.v.).¹⁷

Hangleton passed to Ralph de Chesney, who is believed to have married the daughter of William de Wateville.¹⁸ It did not pass with Ralph's other manors to the Says, but had returned into the hands of William de Warenne II before 1098,¹⁹ and came subsequently to a family called Cockfield.²⁰ About 1180 Earl Hamelin de Warenne confirmed an agreement made between Adam de Cukufeld and the monks of St. Pancras, Lewes, concerning 10 librates of land in Hangleton which the earl had given back to Adam.²¹ In 1199 Adam's widow Lucy and her son Adam recovered land in Hangleton of which they had been unjustly disseised by Wolwin, reeve of Blatchington, and Peter Ketel.²²

Lucy was still alive in 1201;²³ Adam was dead by 1214,²⁴ and his son Robert, who confirmed to the nuns of Delapré (Northants.) a gift of land made by his grandmother Lucy,²⁵ held one knight's fee in Hangleton in 1242.²⁶



COCKFIELD. *Azure a cross chequy argent and gules.*

Robert de Cockfield in 1250 granted a messuage and two carucates of land in Hangleton and Aldrington to his son Robert in exchange for an annuity of £20.²⁷ Robert de Cockfield held Hangleton and half of Aldrington in 1284–5,²⁸ and in 1291 he granted it to Luke de Poynings, retaining for himself a life interest.²⁹ Michael son of Luke, who succeeded him in 1294, was summoned to Parliament in that year as Lord Poynings, and Hangleton manor passed with the title and the manor of Poynings (q.v.) until the death of Robert, Lord Poynings, in 1446.³⁰ His estates passed to his granddaughter Eleanor, wife of Sir Henry Percy. Eleanor died in 1484 and her grandson Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, conveyed the manor in 1531 to Humphry Ratcliffe.³¹ By him the manors of Hangleton and Aldrington were sold in 1538 to Richard Bellingham³² of Newtimber.³³ Richard gave Hangleton Manor in his lifetime to his eldest son Edward Bellingham by his first wife Parnel, daughter of John Cheyney, and his will, dated 20 October 1550, directed that his second wife Mary, daughter of William Everard, should release to Edward all her dower rights in Hangleton.³⁴ Richard's will was proved 22 February 1553. His son Edward also conveyed the manor, during his own lifetime, to his son Richard and daughter-in-law Mary, daughter of Richard Whalley.³⁵ Richard was holding it in 1565,³⁶ and died in 1592.³⁷ Mary survived her husband and afterwards married Barnard Whitstone. Edward Bellingham, son and heir of Richard and Mary, with his brother Richard conveyed the reversion after the death of Mary to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, in 1597.³⁸ A previous conveyance made by Edward Bellingham in 1594 to John Whalley and Henry Shelley for the purpose of barring the entail³⁹ led to litigation with Lord Buckhurst, who wished to be assured that this conveyance, of which he was ignorant at the time of the purchase of the manor, would not be to his prejudice.⁴⁰ Barnard Whitstone and Mary granted an annuity of 100 marks from the manor to Robert Bould in 1599,⁴¹ and in the same year conveyed their interest to Thomas, Lord Buckhurst, then High Treasurer of England.⁴²

The Whitstones remained as tenants of Hangleton Manor⁴³ under the Sackvilles until at least 1602, in which year it was found on inquiry that Barnard, as farmer of the manor, was answerable for the whole of the common fine payable to the hundred from Hangleton parish, and that the farmer of Benfield (q.v.) had never paid any part of it.⁴⁴ From 1600 the manor descended with the Sackville portion of the barony of Lewes (q.v.) until the death of Baroness Buckhurst on 9 January 1870. Her eldest son having predeceased her, her second son Charles Richard Sackville-West, Earl De La Warr, succeeded. He died unmarried in

¹⁰ *Eccles. Returns in E. Suss.* 1603 (Suss. Rec. Soc. iv), 13.

¹¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlv, 144.

¹² *Ibid.* iv, 265.

¹³ *Ibid.* xxxiv, 179, 180; *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1581–90, pp. 100, 105.

¹⁴ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 439.

¹⁵ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiv), 187.

¹⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (ser. 2), cccxi, 110.

¹⁷ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 70.

¹⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* lxx, 21.

¹⁹ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 13.

²⁰ From Cockfield in Suffolk: Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 359–63.

²¹ *Lewes Chart.* 47; cf. Farrer, op. cit. 363.

²² *Curia Regis R.* i, 105.

²³ Farrer, loc. cit.

²⁴ *Rot. Litt. Claus.* i, 140b, 159.

²⁵ Farrer, loc. cit.

²⁶ *Bk. of Fees*, 691.

²⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. vii), 514.

²⁸ *Feud. Aids*, v, 129.

²⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. vii), 1062.

³⁰ Cf. also *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 1689. In 1339 the manor included a pasture called 'Shepelese' and rents called 'eggyselver, ocsegheld and saltgheld': *Cal. Inq. p.m.* viii, 231.

³¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 200.

³² Add. MS. 39487, fol. 19.

³³ *Comber, Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 9–11.

³⁴ P.C.C. 4 Tashe.

³⁵ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 106; *Comber*, op. cit. 12.

³⁶ *Recov. R. Hil.* 7 Eliz. ro. 638.

³⁷ *Comber*, loc. cit.; *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 106.

³⁸ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 200.

³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ *Chan. Proc. Eliz. B.* 29, no. 55.

⁴¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xix), 200.

⁴² *Ibid.*

⁴³ Subsequently the family of Hardwick were tenants for many generations: Lower, *Hist. of Suss.* ii, 208.

⁴⁴ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 147.

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1873.⁴⁵ His next brother Reginald, who had become Lord Buckhurst on the death of his mother, then succeeded to the Earldom of De La Warr, and the Sackville estates passed under the terms of the settlement of the family estates to his younger brother, Mortimer Sackville-West.⁴⁶ He was created on 2 October 1876 Lord Sackville of Knole, with special remainder, failing his issue male, to his two younger brothers Lionel and William Edward. As he died childless in 1888 his next brother Lionel Sackville-West succeeded. He died unmarried on 3 September 1908 and was succeeded by his nephew Lionel Edward, third Lord Sackville, whose brother Sir Charles Sackville-West succeeded in 1928, and is now lord of the manor.

A second manor in Hangleton, later known as *HANGLETON AND BENFIELDS* *alias HANGLETON-BENFIELDS*, probably had its origin in the 'Esmerewic' of Domesday Book, held by Nigel of William de Warenne as 1½ hides, and held before the Conquest by Azor.⁴⁷

The manor was held of the barony of Lewes by the service of three knights fees,⁴⁸ and on the partition of the barony in 1439 these fees were assigned to Edmund Lenthall.⁴⁹ The manor was held of George, Lord Bergavenny, in 1503,⁵⁰ and in 1579 it was said to be held of Henry, Lord Bergavenny, as of his manor of Ditchling (q.v.) by fealty and rent of 12d.⁵¹

Nigel, the tenant in 1086, was succeeded by a son Ralph, who with his wife gave to Lewes Priory his tithes in Hangleton. This grant was confirmed between 1091 and 1098 by William de Warenne.⁵² A family descended from Ralph and Nigel bearing the name 'de Hangleton' was afterwards in possession of part of this manor. About 1147 Simon de Hangleton witnessed a deed of Rainald de Warenne.⁵³ He or another of that name had property at 'Ordlawswick' about 1170.⁵⁴ About 1200 Ralph son of Simon de Hangleton confirmed to Lewes Priory all tithes of sheaves of his lordship in Hangleton which the monks had by gift of his ancestors.⁵⁵ Richard de Hangleton was a witness to a charter relating to Patcham about 1215.⁵⁶ In 1242-3 these three fees in Hangleton were held jointly by Cardo de Hangleton and Ralph de Meyners.⁵⁷ Richard son of Cardo⁵⁸ de Hangleton in 1272 conveyed to Richard de Benfield a messuage and 110 acres of land in Hangleton and all the land there which Joan widow of John de la Rede held in dower.⁵⁹ This apparently did not include all the land held by this family, for in 1315 and 1321 Richard de Hangleton sought to recover his land in Hangleton which had been taken into the king's hands for his default against John de Benfield.⁶⁰ In 1320 Richard acquired a messuage and 150 acres in Hangleton and Aldrington from Juliana de Putlegh⁶¹ and in 1335 he settled a

messuage and 180 acres of land upon himself and his wife Alice.⁶² Richard died before 1349 when his cousin and heir Alice de Roydon had a grant of land in Aldrington, for life, with remainder to her daughter Juliana.⁶³ No further reference has been found to the ownership of this family in Hangleton.

Ralph de Meyners, who shared the three fees in Hangleton with Cardo de Hangleton in 1242-3, was dead before 1247, when his sisters Agnes widow of William de Benfield and Isabel wife of Philip Newbaud shared his estates, Hangleton falling to Agnes.⁶⁴ In 1272 Richard de Benfield, who was probably son of Agnes,⁶⁵ acquired further land here from Richard de Hangleton.⁶⁶ Richard de Benfield was still alive in 1288,⁶⁷ and was succeeded about 1296 by John de Benfield,⁶⁸ who died in 1325 holding 'Benetfeld'. It is doubtful whether this included any land at Hangleton, as the name Benfields was not applied to this manor till a good deal later.⁶⁹ On the other hand, it may have covered the Benfield lands, both in Hangleton and Twineham (q.v.).⁷⁰ Another John de Benfield paid subsidy for a manor of Hangleton in 1412,⁷¹ from which time it descended with the manor of Twineham Benfield (q.v.), being released by John's granddaughter Margery, then the widow of Thomas Austin, to Sir Walter Pawneford in 1471-2.⁷² Two years later she made a conveyance of the manor of Hangleton alone to trustees.⁷³ Margery afterwards married John Williams, and in 1485 they and John Thwaytes son of Margery conveyed lands in Hangleton and elsewhere to William Covert.⁷⁴

The manor then descended with Twineham-Benfield (q.v.) until the death of Thomas Covert without issue male in September 1643, when his younger brother John claimed the estates as next heir under his uncle's will.⁷⁵ Thomas left two daughters Ann and Diana wife of Robert Baynham. His widow Diana married George son of Endymion Porter, and she disputed her brother-in-law's succession, on the ground that her husband Thomas Covert had granted the manor in 1642 to her and her daughters for forty years after his death.⁷⁶ Judgement was probably in her favour for in 1647 she was dealing with the manor.⁷⁷ In 1664 Sir John Covert and his niece Diana Baynham, then a widow, conveyed the manor of Hangleton and Benfields to Harman Atwood.⁷⁸ Possibly by this conveyance Sir John released his claim, for in 1665 Diana Baynham conveyed the manor to Edwin Baldwin.⁷⁹ Diana wife of John Palgrave made a further conveyance in 1670, and in 1679 sold the manor to Thomas Sherman.⁸⁰ Thomas and his wife Susan and others conveyed it in 1701 to William Northcliffe the younger, and others.⁸¹ Northcliffe's widow left the manor by her will to Henry Southwell, who in turn bequeathed it to his brother Edward Southwell of Wisbech in the Isle

⁴⁵ G.E.C. *Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 164.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.* (1st ed.), vii, 2.

⁴⁷ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 439.

⁴⁸ *Bk. of Fees*, 690 (1242-3).

⁴⁹ *Bk. of F. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 187.

⁵⁰ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (Ser. 2), xxiii, 261.

⁵¹ *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iii), 86.

⁵² *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxviii), 12.

⁵³ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xl), 25.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.* 38.

⁵⁵ *Ibid.* 42.

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*

⁵⁷ *Bk. of Fees*, 690.

⁵⁸ Called Richard Kardun in 1266: Lewes Ct. R. (Norfolk muniments).

⁵⁹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. vii), 793.

⁶⁰ *Cal. Close*, 1313-18, 302; 1318-23, 498.

⁶¹ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiii), 1567.

⁶² *Ibid.* 1838.

⁶³ *Ibid.* 2089.

⁶⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 437. Lettice widow of Ralph had for her dower land in Fincham, co. Norfolk.

⁶⁵ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 346.

⁶⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. vii), 793.

⁶⁷ *Lewes Chart.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xl), 62.

⁶⁸ Farrer, loc. cit.

⁶⁹ It is called the manor of Hangleton until the beginning of the 17th century.

⁷⁰ In Buttinghill Hundred.

⁷¹ *Feud. Aids*, vi, 525.

⁷² *Close*, 11 Edw. IV, m. 17.

⁷³ *Ibid.* 13 Edw. IV, m. 12.

⁷⁴ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 3246.

⁷⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xlviii, 3.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, quoting *Chan. Proc. Chas. I*, C. 129, no. 20.

⁷⁷ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 402.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.* xix, 201.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*

⁸¹ *Ibid.*

of Ely, and he was owner of the manor in 1784.⁸² Edward Southwell's sister Jane married Sir Clement Boehm Trafford, of Dunton Hall, co. Lincs. She died in 1809 and her son Sigismund Trafford who assumed the name Southwell inherited the manor.⁸³ He died in August 1827 and the manor seems to have passed to his sister Mrs. Jane Baker, who owned it in 1833 and died about 1849.⁸⁴

The church of *ST. HELEN* stands on *CHURCH* the summit of a hill close to the site of the vanished village. The old road passes by it to the east, and north of it once stood the parsonage house. It consists of nave, chancel, and west tower. It is built of rubble masonry, much of which, in the nave, is laid herring-bone, and has stone dressings. The nave is 12th-century, with the tower an early-13th-century addition. The original chancel was entirely removed about 1300, and a new chancel provided.

The north doorway is blocked, but is contemporary with the nave, and has a semicircular head. East of it is the head of a very small 12th-century window, now blocked. Its place has been taken by a late-13th- or early-14th-century lancet, much restored, a little farther east. On the north side of the chancel are two single-light windows with trefoiled heads. The three-light east window is modern. The south side of the chancel has two single-light windows with trefoiled heads, the western-most of which forms a 'low-side window'.⁸⁵ The south side of the nave has a single-light window at the east end, similar to that opposite, and west of it is the head of the disused 12th-century light. The south door is apparently contemporary with the nave, but has a segmental head.

The tower is quite plain and unbuttressed, and its western wall is lit by two lancets in the lower stage and belfry, much restored. The battlemented parapet is modern. A pyramidal cap roofs the tower.

At the south-east corner of the nave is a small piscina, of 14th-century date, with ogee head, and next to it may be seen the old re-entrant quoins of the original south-east angle of the nave, showing that the chancel arch, together with the whole east wall of the nave, was removed in the 14th century. Just east of the south door is a plain stoup.

At the south-east corner of the chancel is the 16th-century tomb of an unknown person. It is in the Roman Doric style, and consists of a stone panel depicting husband and wife in Elizabethan dress kneeling opposite one another with five sons and six

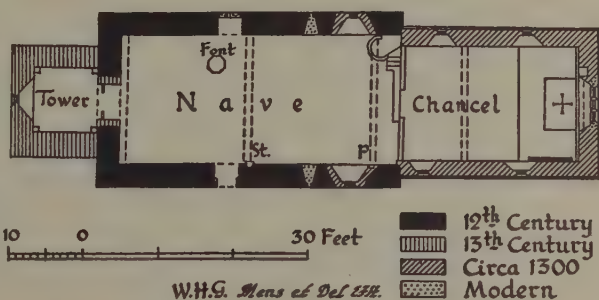
daughters ranged behind them. Below are what appear to be the representations of coffins, four on the daughters' side and one on the sons'. The panel was probably originally painted, as nothing now appears on the scrolls issuing from the mouths of the figures. Above the panel is an entablature, supported by a column on each side, the shafts of which have been removed.

The church, which was restored in 1876, possesses a communion cup of the year 1568, and a paten of 1715.⁸⁶

The registers date from 1666.⁸⁷

Hangleton was one of the churches *ADVOWSON* granted by William de Warenne II in about 1093 to the priory of Lewes for the souls of his father William, his mother Gundrada, and his brother Rainald.⁸⁸ The church was confirmed

PARISH CHURCH of ST. HELEN HANGLETON



to the monks by Henry I, by Bishop Ralph (1091–1125) and Bishop Seffrid (1180–1204), and by Ralph Archbishop of Canterbury in 1121.⁸⁹ The prior retained the advowson until 1523⁹⁰ but it was not included among those conveyed to the king in 1537.⁹¹ In 1291 the church was valued at £10⁹² and in 1535 at £11 14s. 1d., at which time the rector Henry Horneby appears also as vicar of Portslade.⁹³

In 1568 Edward Bellingham presented to Hangleton.⁹⁴ On 9 June 1585 the church was for a short time united to that of West Blatchington.⁹⁵ Richard Bellingham, lord of the manor of Hangleton, died seised of the advowson in 1592.⁹⁶ The reversion was sold with the manor in 1597 by Edward and Richard Bellingham to Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst,⁹⁷ and has since passed with the manor, the present patron of the joint livings of Hangleton and Portslade being Lord Sackville.

⁸² Add. MS. 5683, fol. 42.

⁸³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxiv, 175–6.

⁸⁴ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 161; Burke, *Landed Gentry*.

⁸⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xliii, 155.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.* liv, 244.

⁸⁷ 'Through the sacred Providence of Almighty God the old Church Register of Portslade was burnt by Lightning together with ye Parsonage House of Hangleton on Thursday 31st. May between 4 and 6 morning 1666 John Temple clerke being

ye Rector thereof': entry in Portslade register, quoted in *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxiv, 181. The registers of Hangleton and Portslade were evidently kept, and lost, together.

⁸⁸ *Lewes Chart.* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xxxviii), 21, 40; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 111, 114.

⁸⁹ *Anct. Chart.* (*Pipe R. Soc.* x), 5, 6, 11; *Suss. N. & Q.* i, 49; ii, 252.

⁹⁰ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxiv, 183. In 1390–1 the presentation to the church of

Hangleton every other turn was enumerated among the possessions of Sir Richard de Poyning: *Chan. Inq. p.m.* 15 Rich. II, pt. i, no. 53.

⁹¹ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xx), 426–7.

⁹² *Tax. Eccl.* (*Rec. Com.*), 136.

⁹³ *Valor Eccl.* (*Rec. Com.*), i, 332.

⁹⁴ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxiv, 183.

⁹⁵ *Ibid.*

⁹⁶ *Chan. Inq. p.m.* (*Ser. 2*), ccxxviii, 56.

⁹⁷ *Fines* (*Suss. Rec. Soc.* xix), 200; cf. *Misc. Rec.* (*ibid.* iv), 13.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

PORTSLADE

Porteslage, Portes Ladda (xi cent.); Portislade (xiii cent.).

The parish of Portslade covers a wedge-shaped piece of country lying on the western boundary of the rape of Lewes. Its base is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles across, and it is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, with an area of 1,953 acres. There are, in addition, 8 acres of foreshore, part of which is in the quarter of a mile of the estuary of the River Adur inclosed within the parish boundaries. This stretch of tidal water is now merely a basin, but the river actually flowed along it until late medieval times, its current, aided by the Channel seas, removing from time to time considerable areas of the parish by erosion, so that 60 acres were lost between 1291 and 1340.¹ A small detached portion of Portslade lying in Aldrington has now been transferred to the latter parish.

The northern part of the parish is all Downland, and covered with traces of Early Iron Age field systems, the summits of Tenant Hill and Sweet Brow having the remains of contemporary and Romano-British settlements upon them.² The remains of a Romano-British building have been discovered near Easthill House,³ to the south-east of the old village, and burials of the same period are reported to have been disinterred on the north side of Portslade-by-Sea.⁴ This area to-day is all bare sheep-pasture. The southern part of the parish is, however, rapidly being built upon, and there is a large gas-works situated on the Adur bar.

The parish is intersected by the ancient thoroughfare, sometimes called 'Port's Road', which passes from Saddlescombe, through Hangleton, towards the coast by Southwick.⁵ Where this road passes through Portslade village it is called the Drove Road. Where this road dips as it crosses two spurs is the site of the village, its High Street forming a loop-way parallel with, and south of, the old road. The centre of the village is marked by cross-roads, from which the eastern half of the High Street climbs the hill-side towards the manor-house and parish church, passing several old cottages, one or two of which are possibly late-16th-century, lying between it and the Drove Road.

From the old church, a road leads southwards towards the coast, where is the modern colony of Portslade-by-Sea. This seems to have started as a maritime settlement on the bank of the Adur, along which are a few early-19th-century houses, with others in a back street known as North Road. By the end of the last century, however, the district was becoming residential, and it is now spreading rapidly towards the old village and on either side of it towards the Downs.

In 1898, Portslade-by-Sea was made a separate parish, but in 1933 the two parishes were again united. The population of the old and new parishes in 1931 was 9,527. The new parish church was built in 1864, and a large Roman Catholic church near it in 1912. Portslade railway station on the line from Brighton to Worthing is actually in Aldrington.

The old village possesses the remains of a domestic building of more than usual interest in its Manor House, of which a part dates from the 12th century.⁶ Immediately to the north of the church, and abutting

on the churchyard wall, is the south gable of the manor-house of this period, which consisted of a small building of two stories, built of rubble with stone dressings, and of which much of the southern half remains. The first floor was probably supported by a row of wooden posts down the centre of the lower story, which has the remains of two original windows, altered in the 16th century, in its south wall and another in the south part of its east wall, in which is a modern arched opening built within the jambs of an earlier, medieval opening. The first floor was lit by a series of two-light windows of 12th-century date, two of which remain, the south window being of two semi-circular lights separated by a mullion, while that in the east wall has a slender shaft in place of the mullion. Neither of the couplets has an external containing-arch, but each shared a semicircular-headed internal reveal, with straight sides, and moulded scoinson-arch and jambs. The moulding consists of an edge-roll, and another roll, on the wall-face only, separated from the first by a shallow hollow. The head of the eastern window has been recently rebuilt in old stones and given a segmental head. The windows are rebated internally for shutters. Attached to the northern half of the west wall are the remains of a wing which may be medieval but shows only 16th-century and later features. It is of flint with brick dressings, and the north-west angle remains to some height, traces of 18th-century plaster decoration showing on the internal face of the north wall. Opposite this, at ground level, is a 16th-century fire-place. The ruins have been much robbed to provide material for sham ruins near by. The slender shaft of the 12th-century window is almost weathered away. The ruins are now in the garden of a large modern convent.

Opposite the church and manor-house, on the north side of the High Street, is an old house called Kemps, now divided into cottages. It consists of two wings at right angles, the western, and older, of which is at right angles to the road. It has been much altered, but shows traces of a 16th-century origin. The stair to the first floor is a timber spiral in the outshut; beneath it on the ground floor is a cupboard having the jambs and head of a 16th-century door with a straight head, and at the head of the stair is a plainer doorway with a four-centred head. The attic stair is in its usual position next the chimney-stack, and is also a wooden newel stair of early form. It was once lit by a single-light window, of which the stone-dressed jambs show internally. The exterior of the wing is now stuccoed, but the stump of a brick pilastered chimney-stack shows above the roof. The eastern wing is later, possibly of the early 17th century. It is of flint with brick dressings and quoins. An early window, now blocked, shows in the north-east corner. The present kitchen has an open fire with a spit-rack, upon which the wooden pulleys of the turn-spit remain. The threshold of this room is formed by a 13th-century tomb-slab.

Two holdings at **PORTSLADE** are **MANOR** mentioned in the Domesday Survey. Half a hide was held of William de Warenne by Oswald, who had held it before the Conquest. An-

¹ *Inq. Non.* (Rec. Com.), 386.

² See paper by G. A. Holleyman in *Antiquity*, vol. ix, map opposite p. 448.

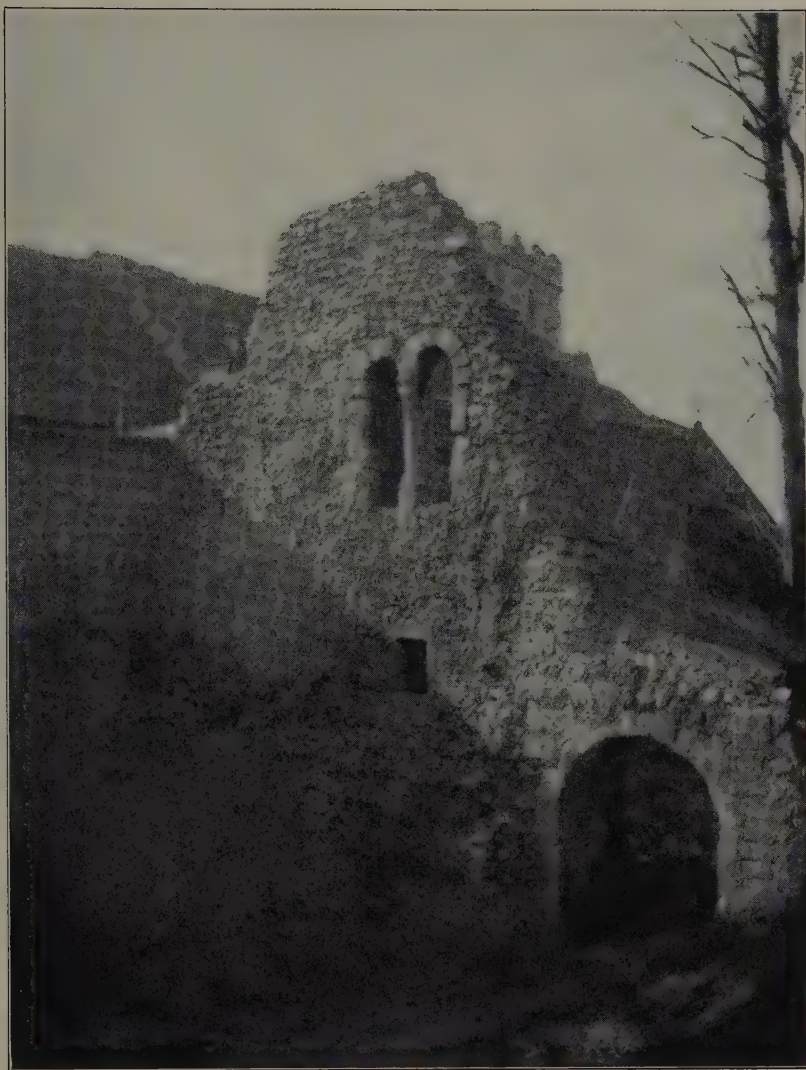
³ *V.C.H. Suss.* iii, 62.

⁴ *Proc. Soc. Ant.* vii, 92.

⁵ *Brighton and Hove Archaeologist*,

iii, 28.

⁶ Paper and plan in *Suss. Arch. Col.* lxxv.



PORTSLADE: THE MANOR-HOUSE



PORTSLADE: THE CHURCH AND MANOR-HOUSE, 1802
(from a drawing in the Sharpe Collection)

other half hide was held by Albert and it paid no geld.⁷ The rest of Portslade was then apparently part of the 9 hides in Aldrington held by Godfrey Pierpoint.⁸

This estate afterwards became the manor of Portslade to which some land in Aldrington and the advowson of Aldrington Church was attached. It appears to have escheated to the Earl of Surrey and to have been given by him to his illegitimate son Rainald de Warenne.⁹ The overlordship of the ten fees of which Portslade formed part descended with the rape, passing in 1439 to Edmund Lenthall.¹⁰ After his death it appears to have gone to the Mowbrays, since the Earl of Arundel was holding these fees at his death in 1465.¹¹ In 1559, however, the site of the manor was said to be held of the three lords of the barony of Lewes.¹²

From Rainald de Warenne the manor descended for a time with Plumpton (q.v.),¹³ until Portslade was granted in 1217 by William Bardolf to his step-father, Hubert de Burgh, second husband of Beatrice.¹⁴ This grant was confirmed in 1226 to Hubert, who was to perform the service of 10 knights' fees for the manor,¹⁵ which fees were said to be held of the manor of Plumpton.¹⁶ This mesne lordship was held by the descendants of William Bardolf until at least 1450.¹⁷

Already by 1226 Hubert de Burgh appears to have given the manor to Margaret,¹⁸ his daughter by his third wife Margaret, sister of Alexander King of Scotland,¹⁹ and the grant was formally enrolled in 1227.²⁰ Hubert fell into disgrace in August 1232 and his estates, including Portslade, were taken into the king's hands. They were restored to him in November of that year,²¹ but in February 1233 Portslade Manor among others was given to Robert Passelewe in trust for Roman clerks, Italians, and others, to compensate them for damage done them by Hubert, until their claims were satisfied.²² Hubert was restored to the king's favour in May 1234, and in June Portslade Manor was restored to his daughter Margaret.²³ Margaret married secretly, without her father's knowledge, his ward Richard, Earl of Gloucester,²⁴ but she died without issue, and Portslade passed in 1241 to her half-brother John de Burgh son of Hubert by Beatrice Bardolf.²⁵ In 1246 John assigned the manor together

with the $\frac{1}{2}$ fee of Alfred de Feringes in East Chilton (q.v.) to Margaret, Countess of Kent, as dower from the former possessions of Hubert who had died in 1243.²⁶ The countess died in 1259,²⁷ and John de Burgh had a grant of free warren in his demesne land at Portslade in 1260.²⁸ Three years later John leased the manor to John Mansell, Treasurer of York.²⁹ On the pretext that John de Burgh had taken part in the rebellion against Henry III, his lands were seized by the Earl Warenne, his overlord.³⁰ John died in 1274 seised of Portslade, which he held of Sir William Bardolf, doing for William the service due to the overlord the Earl Warenne.³¹ His son and heir John died in 1280 leaving three daughters—Divorguilla wife of Sir Robert Fitz Walter, Hawise wife of Sir Robert de Grelle or Gresle, and Margery, a nun variously described as of Chicksand,³² or Sempringham.³³ Portslade Manor fell to the share of Hawise,³⁴ who died in 1299.³⁵ Her son Thomas was then not quite of age, but in 1305 he granted the manor to his sister Joan and her husband John, Lord de la Warr, who was holding it in 1316.³⁶ John de la Warr died in 1347, his heir being his grandson, Sir Roger de la Warr, son of his son John, then aged 18.³⁷ Joan survived him,³⁸ and died in March 1353.³⁹ Sir Roger settled Portslade Manor in 1368 on his eldest son Sir John and his wife Elizabeth and their issue.⁴⁰ Sir Roger de la Warr, who was frequently in France in the king's service, died in Gascony in 1370,⁴¹ having been twice married. His widow Eleanor daughter of John, Lord Mowbray, married Sir Lewis Clifford,⁴² and in 1373 she released her right in a third of the manor of Portslade to Sir John de la Warr son of Sir Roger by his first wife.⁴³ On John's death in 1398, his brother Thomas de la Warr, a clerk, succeeded.⁴⁴ Thomas, who was rector of Manchester and of Swineshead, held Portslade until his death in 1427.⁴⁵ He was succeeded by his nephew Sir Reynold West, son of his half-sister Joan and Sir Thomas West,⁴⁶ who held Portslade as two knights' fees in 1428.⁴⁷ Sir Reynold died seised of Portslade and Aldrington manors in 1450, leaving a son Richard, aged 19,⁴⁸ who in 1459 received a grant of £40 a year for life for his services against the Yorkist rebels and died in March 1476.⁴⁹ His son



BARDOLF. *Azure three cinquefoils or.*



DE LA WARR. *Gules a lion in an orle of crosses fitchy argent.*

⁷ *V.C.H. Suss.* i, 439b.
⁸ *Ibid.* i, 439; see above, p. 275.
⁹ Farrer, *Honors and Knights' Fees*, iii, 323.
¹⁰ *Bk. of J. Rowe* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxxiv), 187.
¹¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 4 Edw. IV, no. 72.
¹² *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iii), 187.
¹³ In *Streat Hundred*.
¹⁴ Add. MS. 6344, fol. 673; Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 163, quoting Pipe R. 2 Hen. III, Northants.
¹⁵ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 200.
¹⁶ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* vii, pp. 177, 182.
¹⁷ *Ibid.* ii, nos. 142, 349; iii, no. 533; ix, p. 37; Chan. Inq. p.m. 9 Rich. II, no. 11; 22 Rich. II, no. 53; 29 Hen. VI, no. 21.
¹⁸ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 200.
¹⁹ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), vii, 141.
²⁰ *Cal. of Chart. R.* 1226–57, pp. 60, 81, 131.
²¹ *Cal. Close*, 1231–4, p. 166.
²² *Ibid.*, p. 188.

²³ *Ibid.*, p. 443.
²⁴ *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), v, 700.
²⁵ *Ibid.* vii, 142; *Excerpta e Rot. Fin.* (Rec. Com.), i, 342, 344.
²⁶ *G.E.C.* op. cit. vii, 142; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 438.
²⁷ *G.E.C.* loc. cit.
²⁸ *Cal. Chart. R.* 1257–1300, p. 27.
²⁹ *Cal. Pat.* 1258–66, p. 251.
³⁰ *Cal. Misc. Inq.* i, 918; *Suss. Arch.* Coll. vi, 219.
³¹ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ii, no. 142.
³² *Ibid.* no. 349.
³³ *Cal. Fine*, 1272–1307, p. 126.
³⁴ *Abbrev. Rot. Orig.* (Rec. Com.), i, 35; *Cal. Fine*, 1272–1307, p. 126; *Cal. Close*, 1279–88, p. 186.
³⁵ *Feud. Aids*, v, 129; *Cal. Inq. p.m.* iii, no. 533.
³⁶ *Feud. Aids*, v, 135; *Inq. a.q.d.* file 212, no. 13; file 244, no. 7; *G.E.C. Complete Peerage* (2nd ed.), iv, 142. In 1305 Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, undertook to aid, counsel, and finance

John de Gise [of Elmore, see *Trans. Bristol & Glouces. Arch. Soc.* iii, 49] in recovering from Thomas de Greyly the manor of Portslade and the advowson of the church of Aldrington, for which John was to pay him £2,000 when he had obtained seisin: Dy. of Lanc. Deeds (P.R.O.), 1643.
³⁷ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ix, p. 37; A charter of John la Warre of 1336 was dated at Portslade; *Cal. Chart.* 1341–1417, p. 176.
³⁸ *Cal. Close*, 1346–49, p. 221.
³⁹ *G.E.C.* op. cit. 143.
⁴⁰ *Cal. Close*, 1364–8, p. 472.
⁴¹ Chan. Inq. p.m. 44 Edw. III (1st nos.), no. 68.
⁴² *G.E.C.* op. cit. 146.
⁴³ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xxiii), 2435.
⁴⁴ Chan. Inq. p.m. 22 Rich. II, no. 53.
⁴⁵ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* x, 141.
⁴⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. 5 Hen. VI, no. 54.
⁴⁷ *Feud. Aids*, v, 162.
⁴⁸ Chan. Inq. p.m. 29 Hen. VI, no. 21.
⁴⁹ *G.E.C.* op. cit. 155.

A HISTORY OF SUSSEX

Thomas West, Lord de la Warr, was a supporter of Henry VII, and obtained large grants of land in Sussex.⁵⁰ He mortgaged Portslade and other manors in 1497 to Ralph Bukberd of London, and died in 1525.⁵¹ His son Thomas died without issue in September 1554, when the baronies of La Warr and West fell into abeyance between the daughters of his half-brother Sir Owen West.⁵² Sir William West, nephew and heir male of Thomas, being son of Sir George West of Warbleton, co. Sussex, had been adopted by Thomas as his heir before the death of Sir Owen in 1551, but William had tried to poison his uncle and was by Act of Parliament in February 1550 disabled from all honours. In 1556 he was found guilty of complicity in a plot against Queen Mary. He was, however, restored in blood in 1563 and was created in 1570 Lord de la Warr. He died in December 1595,⁵³ and his son Thomas conveyed Portslade and other manors in 1599 to Sir Herbert Pelham as security for certain bonds.⁵⁴ In the following year Thomas, Lord de la Warr, Thomas Pelham, Herbert Pelham, and others sold the manor to Richard Snelling.⁵⁵

The site of the manor had been held before this time by the Snellings. Thomas father of Richard was holding it at the time of his death in 1559, and it had previously been in the tenure of Thomas's mother Joan.⁵⁶ Joan Wetley mother of Richard, who was then only 5 years of age, received the profits after the death of Thomas.⁵⁷ Richard Snelling was succeeded as lord of the manor between 1602 and 1607⁵⁸ by his son Sir George Snelling, who with his wife Cecily and his father Richard Snelling and his mother Margaret sold the manor in November 1609 to Abraham Edwards of Lewes and Abraham Edwards of Brightling.⁵⁹ The former died in 1615, when his kinsman became sole owner of the manor.⁶⁰ He died in October 1643 at Portslade, leaving his son Abraham, then aged 8 years and 8 months, in the charge of Abraham, younger brother of the deceased.⁶¹ Abraham was still lord of the manor in 1670,⁶² but before the end of 1700 Portslade manor had passed to William Westbrook, who had been succeeded before 1704 by Elizabeth Westbrook.⁶³ She appears to have married Thomas Andrew, as Thomas and his wife Elizabeth were owners of the manor between 1717 and 1734.⁶⁴ From 1739 to 1747 their grandson Thomas Foley was lord, but he sold the manor in 1750 to William Watson of Ticehurst, from whom it passed to William Davies of Rye, who had married Elizabeth Watson.⁶⁵ Mr. Davies died about September 1783, and the manor passed to his only daughter Elizabeth the wife of Thomas Philipps Lamb of Rye. In 1806 they conveyed half the manor to William Borrer.⁶⁶ Elizabeth Lamb, widow, conveyed half the manor in 1819 to James Sowton,⁶⁷ but the whole came to the Borrer family, John Borrer being the owner in 1833 and 1859.⁶⁸ It was still in the possession of the Borrer family in 1870.⁶⁹

Many manors, including Ovingdean, were held as of

Portslade by the early 17th century, and the customs of Portslade are described in a survey of 1631.⁷⁰

In 1312 John de Warenne, Earl of Surrey, was granted a yearly fair at his manor of Portslade.⁷¹ The lord of Portslade had all wreckage cast up between the west hedge of Aldrington and the ditch of Hove.⁷² The custom of Borough English prevailed in this manor.⁷³

The parish church of *ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH* stands on the eastern side of the old village.

It is built of rubble with stone dressings. It consists of a nave of three bays with north and south aisles, a chancel with modern north vestry, and a western tower. At the west end of the north aisle is the modern Brackenbury Chapel, between which and the tower is a small annexe. There is a south porch of uncertain date. The north aisle of the nave is modern, but the nave and south aisle are of the late 12th century, the chancel and the upper stages of the west tower being rather later.

The whole of the north side of the church is modern, except for part of the north wall of the chancel, which has two large 13th-century lancets. Opposite these, in the south wall, are two others, with a third near the east wall of the aisle, set low to form a 'low-side' window. The east wall of the chancel has a pair of 13th-century lancets with a circular sexfoiled light over. The end walls of the south aisle are pierced by small 13th-century lancets, and there is another near the east end of the south wall. West of the porch is a larger single-light window with a trefoiled head, probably of the 14th century. The south porch is of doubtful antiquity. It has a plain pointed and chamfered stone outer arch. The west tower, which has Caen stone quoins, is probably of late-12th-century build in the lower part and was completed in the early part of the 13th century. The battlemented belfry stage is late-14th-century and has a single trefoil-headed light on each face. The ringing floor and the tower space are each lit by a single small lancet in the west wall of the tower, the latter having a half-round head externally, but pointed within. The west door is obtusely pointed, in two heavy orders, each with a small chamfer. There are simple impost mouldings, consisting of a roll with a deeply undercut hollow beneath it. The tower has a modern stair turret on its north side.

The tower arch is obtusely pointed in one order with a small chamfer passing round both arch and responds. The last are of slight projection from the walls of the tower and have mid-12th-century quirked and chamfered impost mouldings, matching that to the west respond of the nave arcade. The south arcade has three plain, unchamfered, obtusely pointed arches in a single order springing from two circular piers with high well-moulded square bases having griffes at the angles. The capitals are of cushion form with well-cut scallop ornament from the square abacus to the circular bed. The abacus of the western capital has the same quirk and chamfer as the western respond.

⁵⁰ G.E.C. op. cit. 156.

⁵¹ Ibid.; Early Chan. Proc. bdle. 589, no. 29.

⁵² *Inq.* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xiv), 1073.

⁵³ G.E.C. op. cit. 157.

⁵⁴ Com. Pleas, D. Enr. Trin. 41 Eliz. m. 12.

⁵⁵ Feet of F. Suss. East. 42 Eliz.

⁵⁶ Chan. Inq. p.m. (Ser. 2), cxvii, 133.

⁵⁷ Joan and her husband John Wetley or Whetley were accused of wasting the estate during Richard's minority: Chan.

Proc. (Ser. 2), bdle. 8, no. 3.

⁵⁸ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 194; Add. MS. 5684, fol. 70.

⁵⁹ Comber, *Suss. Gen. (Lewes)*, 275; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 358; *Inq.* (ibid. xiv), 361.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ Ibid. 365.

⁶² Add. MS. 5684, fol. 70.

⁶³ Ibid.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ Add. MS. 39500, fol. 208.

⁶⁶ Feet of F. Suss. East. 46 Geo. III; *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. xx), 358.

⁶⁷ *Recov. R. Mich.* 60 Geo. III, ro. 318.

⁶⁸ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 184; xi, 82; Horsfield, *Hist. of Sussex*, i, 163.

⁶⁹ Lower, *Hist. of Sussex*, ii, 103.

⁷⁰ *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 205-10.

⁷¹ *Cal. Chart.* 1300-26, p. 194.

⁷² *Bk. of J. Rowe*, 208.

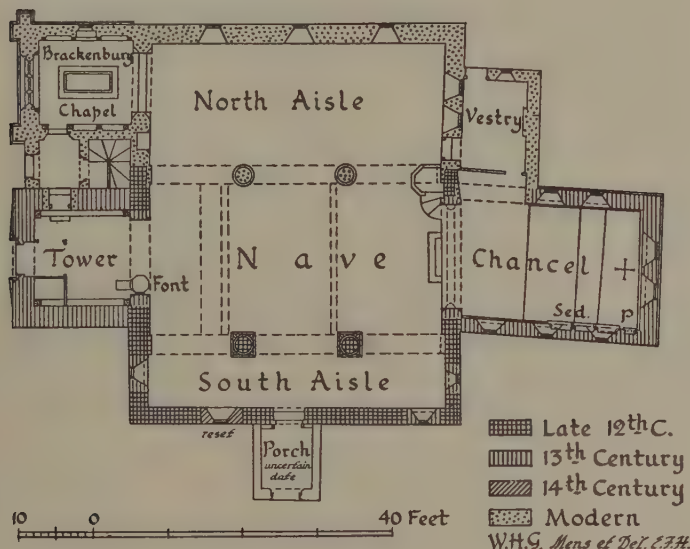
⁷³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* vi, 184.

The eastern has a convex band between two quirks over a hollow chamfer, the latter being repeated in the eastern respond, the lower part of which has been cut away at a later date flush with the wall, leaving the cap as a corbel with two additional hollows formed below. The north arcade is a modern copy of that to the south. The south door is a plain semicircular-headed arch without imposts and with a reveal of similar form. The east wall of the nave is in line with that of the aisle. At the north end of this wall is the northern half of a small arch that apparently adjoined the original chancel arch. It was of about four feet span, and had a

Between the seats are small detached shafts, with deeply undercut caps and water-holding bases. The piscina is of similar form, but with no stops to the hood-mould, and with primitive stiff-leaf carving on the bell of the eastern shaft-cap. The basin projects, and is fluted internally.

The roof of the nave, which also covers the south aisle, is apparently of the 16th century. Its tie-beams support king-posts which each have four struts spreading to meet the collar and a longitudinal binder which passes down the church. The roof is covered with Horsham stone slabs. The font is plain, and of 15th-

PARISH CHURCH of ST. NICHOLAS PORTSLADE



semicircular arch in one order with elaborate chevron ornament on the soffit as well as on face. The imposts were of simple form, with a quirk above a flat chamfer. A slight plinth formed the base of the respond. The southern half of this arch was cut away when the present 13th-century chancel arch was built.⁷⁴ The latter is of two orders, the inner being chamfered and supported on corbels each having a cap with a deeply undercut filleted roll and a short shaft fluted back to the face of the respond. The main order is plain except for a slight chamfer carried round it and down the responds without any imposts. The west end of the north wall of the chancel has been cut away to give access to the modern vestries, and a half-arch has been formed to clear the impost of the old side arch. The eastern couplet of lancets are set out so that their splays adjoin. The chancel has an undercut filleted-roll string-course passing beneath the windows. In the usual position in the south wall of the chancel are three 13th-century sedilia and a piscina. The seats rise towards the east, and are covered by continuous arches of trefoil form, with hollowed chamfer, below arched hood-moulding which terminates at either end in mask-stops of crude design.

century origin, but the bowl has been renewed. It is octagonal, with foliated panels to the shaft and a spreading base of simple form. The organ is situated in a gallery in the tower, and an arch has been cut over the tower arch to enable it to be heard in the church.

The church once possessed a remarkable painting of a 'Doom', in an unusual position on the south side of the nave, the whole of which it covered.⁷⁵ Above the centre arch was a Majesty, and above the cap of the easternmost pillar were the souls rising towards a crowd of angels, sounding trumpets, occupying the upper eastern portion of the painting. On the opposite side of the central feature to the angels were demons with bat-wings, casting down the damned towards the mouth of Hell, which occupied the space above the cap of the westernmost pillar. High up in the north-east corner of the nave is a coat of arms supported by angels. The field is quartered, one and four are now blank, and lions rampant occupy the second and third quarters. On the east wall of the south aisle is a brass plate commemorating Richard Scrase of Hangleton, another Richard Scrase of Blatchington, and Edward Scrase of Blatchington, who died in 1499, 1519, and

⁷⁴ It should be remarked that the northern respond of this side arch is flush with the old north wall of the nave, so that the springers of the arch must have been

buried in the masonry. This was probably due to an original error in setting out the nave wall, which at its west end is much nearer the tower than is the respond of

the south aisle arcade.

⁷⁵ A drawing of the remains of this painting appears in the *Suss. Arch. Coll.*, vol. i, opposite p. 161.

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1579 respectively. This plate was found in the ruins of West Blatchington Church.

At the west end of the aisle a carved 'Bible box' bearing the initials M. W. and the date 1756 has been set as an alms box.

There are three bells: one of the early 16th century by Thomas Lawrence; one of 1613 by Edmund Giles; and one of 1661 by Bryan and William Eldridge.⁷⁶ The bell-frame is supported on oak posts in the four angles of the tower, reaching to the ground.

The plate consists of a silver communion cup of 1637; a paten of foreign origin; another paten and an alms-dish of 1726; and a silver flagon of 1727.⁷⁷

The registers begin in 1666.⁷⁸

The church of *ST. ANDREW*, Portslade-on-Sea, is situated three-quarters of a mile south of the old parish church, on the road joining the village to its modern maritime offshoot. It was built in 1864, of brick with stone dressings, in the Gothic style with a nave and an apsidal chancel. In 1889 it was enlarged by the addition of a north aisle of four bays with a vestry to the east. The registers date from 1877.

The tithes of Portslade were confirmed to the priory of Lewes by Ralph, Bishop of Chichester (1091–1123),⁷⁹ and the church was confirmed to them by Bishop Seffrid II about 1187.⁸⁰ About 1185 there was some controversy as to the church between Stephen, the clerk, and the prior and monks of Lewes, which was settled by Stephen's acknowledgement of the prior's claim.⁸¹ In 1191 the prior assigned the advowson to William son of Rainald de Warenne, lord of the manor, in exchange for the advowson of Harthill, co. Yorks., on condition that the parson of Portslade

should pay the prior and convent yearly 40s.⁸² The advowson passed with the manor to Hubert de Burgh, Justiciar of England, who gave it and the church of Portslade to the canons of St. Radegund of Bradsole, for sustenance of themselves and the poor pilgrims who resorted there, saving to Robert the parson and Robert the vicar their pensions as long as they lived.⁸³ Henry III confirmed this grant,⁸⁴ and the church was appropriated to the canons.⁸⁵

In 1246, however, the advowson was conveyed by John de Burgh to the Countess of Kent.⁸⁶ In 1347 John de la Warr was said to hold the advowson at his death,⁸⁷ but the canons of St. Radegund presented in 1444 and appear to have remained in possession of the advowson and rectory until the Dissolution.⁸⁸ Both were granted on 28 May 1538 to Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury,⁸⁹ and his successors. The advowson remained with the archbishops until at least 1773,⁹⁰ but subsequently came into the hands of the Crown,⁹¹ and was sold in 1864 to the Dowager Countess Amherst, and since then has remained in the Sackville family. The vicarage was held with the rectory of Hangleton in 1535⁹² and 1634.⁹³ The two were united in 1864 and the patron is now Lord Sackville. In 1291 Portslade was valued at £20⁹⁴ and in 1535 at £8 18s. 8d.⁹⁵

The rectory was leased by the Archbishop in 1580 for 3 lives to William, George, and John Bellingham,⁹⁶ and 'Mr. Bellingham' was tenant of the parsonage house in 1650.⁹⁷ Portslade parsonage house was sold by the Parliamentary Trustees in February 1658 to Edward Anthill of Warnham and Richard Furby of Mayfield.⁹⁸ The rectorial tithes had been commuted before 1849,⁹⁹ and are now appropriated to the parish of St. Andrew, Portslade-by-Sea, constituted in 1876.¹

⁷⁶ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xvi, 221; lvii, 49.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.* liv, 243.

⁷⁸ The earlier registers were burnt in that year; see above, p. 281, n. 87.

⁷⁹ *Suss. N. & Q.* i, 49, 50.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.* ii, 252, 253.

⁸¹ *Cat. Anc. D.* iv, A. 6694.

⁸² *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 1.

⁸³ Horsfield, *Sussex*, i, 164; Add. MS. 5698, fol. 254; Dugdale, *Mon.* vi, 942.

⁸⁴ Add. MS. 5698, fol. 129.

⁸⁵ Bacon, *Liber Regis*, 149.

⁸⁶ *Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc. ii), 438.

⁸⁷ *Cal. Inq. p.m.* ix, p. 37; *Cal. Close*, 1346–9, p. 221.

⁸⁸ *Reg. of Bishop Praty* (Suss. Rec. Soc. iv); *L. and P. Hen. VIII*, xiii (1), g. 1519 (68).

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*; Pat. 30 Hen. VIII, pt. ii.

⁹⁰ Add. MS. 5698, fol. 129.

⁹¹ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xii, 259; liii, 4; Inst. Bks. (P.R.O.).

⁹² *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 332.

⁹³ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxv, 185.

⁹⁴ *Tax. Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), 135.

⁹⁵ *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), i, 332.

⁹⁶ *Cal. S. P. Dom.* 1598–1601, p. 534.

⁹⁷ *Suss. Arch. Coll.* x, 23 note.

⁹⁸ *Close* 1658, pt. 10, no. 39.

⁹⁹ *Lewis, Top. Dict.*

¹ *Chich. Dioc. Kal.* (1889).

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